The World's Daily Newspaper

Paris, Wednesday, March 11, 1998

No. 35,776

Suharto Is Given

A 7th Mandate

Amid Growing

Domestic Crisis

Son of Indonesian President

Warns IMF That the Country

By Seth Mydans New York Times Service

JAKARTA - With shouts of "Agree! Agree!"

electoral delegates leaped from their seats on Tuesday

to acclaim President Suharto as their leader for a

seventh term, after 32 years of nearly absolute power

His carefully scripted re-election was unanimous, without even a murmur of dissent in the 1,000-member

People's Consultative Assembly. But it comes at Mr.

Suharto's moment of greatest crisis as the dramatic

economic accomplishments of his presidency slip

away under the pressure of Asia's economic slump. Since the crisis hit in January, Mr. Suharto, 76, has

produced an impressive display of his political control,

cowing his critics into silence, choking off demon-strations and cementing the backing of the powerful

But he has failed to come to grips with the economic

crisis and is now locked in a confrontation with the

International Monetary Fund, which is demanding that

he dismantle Indonesia's system of monopolies and favoritism in return for a \$40 billion rescue package.

the IMF plan in return for billions of dollars in aid, the fund's director-general, Michel Camdessus, said Monday, "We are not there yet by far in Indonesia."

of creating what is known as a currency board, which

would artificially raise the value of the Indonesian

rupiah, a move that the IMF has strongly opposed.

Though Thailand and South Korea have embraced

Instead, Mr. Suharto is continuing to float the idea

This possibility has slowed the deterioration in the

value of the rupiah against the dollar, which closed

Tuesday at 10,950 rupiah, down from 10,900 Monday.

Last week, the IMF announced that it was delaying

its second \$3 billion disbursement of funds because of

the slow pace of reforms, and Indonesian officials

One of the President's sons, Bambang Trihatmodjo,

said Tuesday that Indonesia would go it alone rather than

submit to foreign dictate. "If necessary, we can rebuild

The statement captured the country's grim mood on

Mr. Suharto enters his new term facing a bleak economy not unlike the one he inherited in 1965 from

what should have been a day of triumph for Asia's

his predecessor, Sukarno, with both inflation and unemployment soaring amid growing fears of food

power after suppressing an apparent Communist coup attempt, which was followed by massacres that took as

this country starting from ground zero," he said.

reacted with pugnacious nationalism.

longest-serving leader.

shortages and social unrest.

many as 500,000 lives.

military and all three officially sanctioned parties.

Is Prepared to Go It Alone

in the world's fourth-largest nation.

Serb Leader's Ghosts Return to Haunt Him

With Kosovo Crackdown, Milosevic Risks Isolation, and Perhaps a New Balkan War

> By Chris Hedges New York Times Service

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia — Kosovo is a sacred place for Serbs, and for Serbian politicians. The Ottoman Turks defeated an army of Serbian knights on a barren field here more than six centuries ago, and Serbs have commemorated their martyrdom ever since in poetry and song.

This is the hallowed ground where Slobodan Milosevic, Yugoslavia's president, chose to begin his transformation from Communist bureaucrat to

NEWS ANALYSIS

nationalist leader. The fierce nationalism unleashed by Mr. Milosevic with a 1987 speech here launched his career as a popular politician and fueled the wars that followed the breakup of Yugoslavia.

Now, like a protagonist in Greek tragedy, Mr. Milosevic has come full circle to confront the ghosts he resurrected. He is clearly risking renewed international isolation to crush a budding rebellion in this Serbian province by the ethnic Albanians who form its majority. The Albanians have vowed vengeance in response.

With that, the issue has been joined here as it was in Croatia and Bosnia: Will the violence kindle another Balkan

war in this century? That possibility has long worried Americans. President George Bush warned Mr. Milosevic eight years ago that violence against the Albanians, who make up 90 percent of Kosovo's population, could lead to military inervention.

The fear was then — and is now — that the fighting could spread across borders. Albania's ragtag army could be drawn into war with Serbia to protect ethnic Albanians in Kosovo from annihilation.

Balkan Strife's Fallout

U.S. envoy accuses Serbia of having used "brutal" force in Kosoyo. • Albanians draw back from the "fire" across the border. Page 6.

Restive ethnic Albanians in Macedonia and Montenegro could join a revolt, perhaps drawing Turkey and Greece into war.

The likelihood of this scenario has been debated. But it propels Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's efforts to impose sanctions against Serbia and try to compel Mr. Milosevic to rein in his

Mr. Milosevic, who is presiding over an economically troubled nation with rampant unemployment, has much to lose if he becomes known as the man who let Kosovo get away.

He can still reap political benefits from taking a tough line on the Albanian issue, provided the casualties are min-

He has played the Kosovo card be-fore. Mr. Milosevic argued in his 1987 speech that while Serbs were the largest of the ethnic groups in Yugoslavia, they were being cheated out of their fair share of jobs and eco-

Few Serbs lived in Kosovo, which had come to be dominated by ethnic Albanians, and the Serb-controlled press was running incendiary stories about the plight of the Serbs in the province, highlighting charges of rapes and beatings.

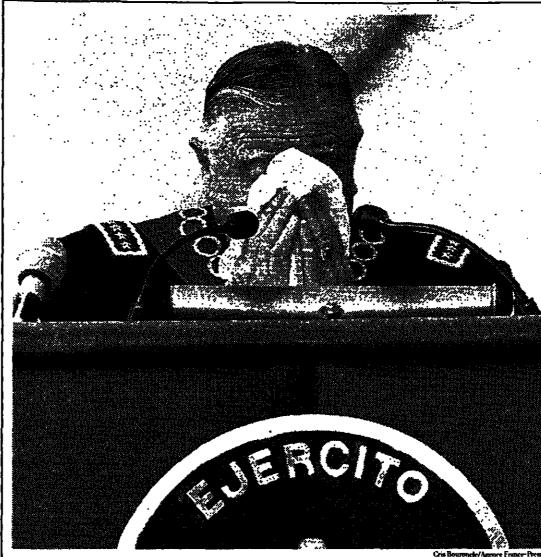
Mr. Milosevic came to Kosovo and pugnaciously declared that other ethnic groups would no longer be permitted to abuse the Serbian nation. He vowed a government dominated by Serbs and a Yugoslavia that served Serbian in-

Mr. Milosevic also nurtured ancient myths and glory, pointing to domed Serbian Orthodox monasteries and churches that dot a landscape increasingly devoid of Serbs.

The nationalist talk made him wildly popular among the Serbian population. Like all groups in former Yugoslavia, it was suffering under the economic collapse brought on by \$10 billion in debt to international lenders.

Such talk also played on the deep xenophobia of Serbs, who after 500 years of brutal Ottoman occupation had

See KOSOVO, Page 6



General Pinochet wiping away the tears in his farewell speech Tuesday at a military academy.

Chile's Old Soldier Swaps Hats

Retiring as Army Chief, Pinochet Becomes Senator for Life

By Anthony Faiola Washington Post Service

SANTIAGO - The general left much more gently than he came.

Under a cloudy, tepid sky, with a weak walk and a salute that sometimes faltered, General Augusto Pinochet, 82, who launched a bloody coup in 1973 that included bombing his own nation's presidential palace, retired Tuesday as commander of the Chilean Army in a tearful speech that marked a milestone in the waning years of Latin American dictatorships.

Although General Pinochet, the iron-fisted ruler here for 17 years, gave up the presidency to a democratically elected government in 1990, he held on to his powerful army title. On Tuesday, he literally lowered his personal flag at Chile's military academy and passed the baton of power to General Ricardo Izurieta, a moderate who is a former military attaché to Washington, before a crowd of 1,000

supporters and 3,000 elite army troops.

General Pinochet swept to power in September

See CHILE, Page 6

Sierra Leone Leader Returns to a Ravaged Society



Sierra Leonean children sheltering from dust as a helicopter carrying missionaries took off from Makeni. Sierra Leone faces immense difficulties in reintegrating hundreds of children who committed atrocities during the rebellion. The president returned Tuesday from exile in Guinea to resume his duties. Page 7.

In Era of Big Mergers, Antitrust Watchdogs Stir

Washington Sours on Ownership Concentration

By Steven Pearlstein Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON - Since the end of the Cold War, the American government has looked on approvingly as the U.S. defense industry cut itself in half and reorganized into a handful of giant corporations. A smaller, more consolidated industry, everyone said, held the promise of lowering costs and saving taxpayers billions of dollars a year.

But this week, just as the last of the mergers was set to go through, government officials acknowledged that the process may have gone far enough.

Instead of approving the merger of Lockheed Martin and Northrop Grumman with a small divestiture here or a firewall there, the Justice Department warned that the industry had become so concentrated that the cost savings from any additional mergers might be outweighed by the loss of competition among contractors and their suppliers.

After years of being derided as misguided regulation and dismissed as an irrelevancy in a global, high-tech economy, the antitrust laws appear to be

staging a comeback.

And not just in the defense industry. In recent weeks, the Federal Trade Commission has blocked two mergers among drug wholesalers that had threatened to reduce that industry from five players to three. On Friday, it questioned the pending deal between Compaq Computer and Digital Equipment.

[GTE, International Business Ma-

chines and Sprint confirmed the U.S. Justice Department subpoenaed information about their Internet services for its review of WorldCom's \$37 billion acquisition of MCI Communications, Bloomberg News reported.]

The Justice Department has stepped up its investigation of how major airlines use reservation systems and clever pricing to protect virtual monopolies in airports where they maintain hub operations.

In Europe, officials are promising such a thorough review of the merger between the accounting giants Ernst & Young and KPMG Peat Marwick that the companies

See DEALS, Page 6

The son of poor farmers, he focused on bringing his nation up from poverty, providing schools, health care, roads and electricity to even the most remote areas of this sprawling archipelago. In addition, he secured decades of stability through a system of top-down military control, tight limits on press freedom and the banning of most political activity. But the steady growth rate of 7 percent a year that he See SUHARTO, Page 4

'What's Going On?' A Tense Japan Asks **Of Finance Reforms**

By Sandra Sugawara Washington Post Service

TOKYO -- Koichi Ikegami is packing them in these days, filling meeting halls from one end of Japan to the other. The overflowing crowds listen intensely as the 42-year-old extrovert strides across the stage, with microphone and pointer in hand. Some scribble down his every word.

Mr. Ikegami is neither politician nor celebrity. He is Nomura Securities Co.'s expert on the "Big Bang," the unfolding deregulation of Japan's financial services industry.

Since October, more than 27,000 people have flocked to his speeches seeking answers to why the government is throwing out the old rules, allowing Japanese banks and brokerages to go bankrupt and letting foreign companies in to commandeer business from old-line Japanese companies. The crowds have surged since November, when three major Japanese financial institutions went bust.

"The looks on their faces are so serious," Mr. Ikegami said. "They are so worried. Although the panic from the November bankruptcies has died down somewhat, I can tell that people are still struggling to face a situation that was unimaginable before. In

Japan, financial institutions never used to go under.' Japan's financial system was hit hard by the collapse of the "bubble economy" in the early 1990s. Now, after

See TOKYO, Page 4

South Korea's Touchy Task: Unlocking the Political Prisoners monument to the dark, dictatorial days of reluctant to expend his political capital by rapidly Korea past, and yet he and hundreds like him releasing the country's political prisoners. teeth are all gone because of decades of torture. In 1958 the prisoner, Woo Yong Gak, was By Nicholas D. Kristof

New York Times Service

SEOUL - The world of Prisoner No. 3514 is a closet-size space with three brick walls and one solid steel door with a flap that opens to deliver his meals. His only "furniture" is one blanket that he lays on the floor as a mattress and another that he wraps around himself to light the winter cold.

Possibly the longest-serving political prisoner in the world today, Prisoner No. 3514 has spent the last 39 years and seven months in prison.
Others who have been released say that he is partly paralyzed from a stroke and that his

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the head of an eight-member North Korean military reconnaissance team whose boat was

President Kim is expected to grant a special amnesty Friday. Page 4.

seized when it entered South Korean waters Human rights specialists in South Korea and abroad say he is being kept in prison long after others accused of being spies were freed because he will not renounce his belief in communism. This short, baldish, 60-year-old man seems a remain imprisoned in the democracy that is

While some of the prisoners, like Mr. Woo, were imprisoned on charges of espionage, others are South Korean labor activists and leftists who were convicted of distributing North Korean propaganda or of burning incense to moun the death of President Kim Il Sung of North Korea in 1994.

Now another former political prisoner, Kim Dae Jung, has just taken office as president, but South Korea remains profoundly suspicious of Communists like Mr. Woo, and Mr. Kim is

"The time is not yet ripe for the release of all prisoners of conscience," Mr. Kim said re-

cently. "But I have a strong commitment to democracy, and I will make sure that they are freed gradually. The upshot is that South Korea may be one of

the most vigorous democracies in Asia, but by. popular consent it continues to imprison Communists, supporters of the enemy government in North Korea and even those who try to listen to North Korean radio broadcasts.

See KOREA, Page 4

AGENDA

Jordan and Israel Hail Mended Relations

TEL AVIV (Reuters) — Israel and Jordan said Tuesday that they had opened a new chapter in their relations after a bitter dispute over a botched Israeli assassination attempt on Jor-

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel and Crown Prince Hassan of Jordan said at a news conference

in Tel Aviv that the time had come to push for progress in deadlocked peace talks between Israel and the Palestin-

"We have today a new beginning between Israel and Jordan," Mr. Netanyahu said. "We can have a new beginning between Israel and the Pal-

PAGE TWO A Crusade Against the Privacy Pirate		
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Page 7, 12,

A Resilient Market **Shrugs Off Bad News**

The Dow Jones industrial index set a record Tuesday, led by a rally in the technology sector, on optimism that the disappointing profits of some computerrelated companies would not stop the bull

Bill O'Hearn, a portfolio manager at McKinley Capital Management Inc., said " people have become accustomed to buying on dips." Page 14.

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danian soil last year.

Consumers Strike Back to Defend Privacy

By John Schwartz and Robert O'Harrow Jr. Washington Post Service

ASHINGTON - What finally sent Tom Meeks over the top this year was a birthday card inscribed Happy Birthday from your

Mr. Meeks had no friends at Radio Shack. the consumer electronics retail chain. It mystified him how the company even knew when his birthday was.

After a phone call to the company, Mr. Meeks discovered that Radio Shack bought his birth date and many others from an outside database and combined it with its mailing list of more than 147 million customers.

In a letter to the company president, Leonard Roberts, Mr. Meeks complained that the birthday card, offering a 10 percent discount, "thoroughly shocked and appalled" him.

To reciprocate the feeling of invasion, Mr. Meeks included Mr. Roberts's home telephone number and his wife's first name in the letter.

Mr. Meeks is part of a growing army of consumers who are angry over the failure to protect personal information. As data become ever more easily amassed, stored and transferred electronically, many people view safe-guarding it as a sort of "street smarts" for the

On the simple end, people are delisting phone numbers and omitting their Social Se-curity numbers from applications. On the complicated end, they sort trash to protect credit card numbers of discarded receipts and scramble their electronic mail with encryption

in California, roughly 50 percent of telephone subscribers have contacted Pacific Bell to disable the Caller ID signal on their outgoing calls— a right guaranteed by the state's law. When they place a call, a Caller ID telephone flashes the words "private number" on the screen.

Some people simply want to avoid dinnertime calls from pesky marketers. Others have a deep distrust of government and business, a fear that information ultimately will | make its way to insurers or employers and be used against them.

For one activist, Janlori Goldman, fighting back against privacy erosion starts with chiding sales clerks who ask for personal information — a common practice at retail chains such as the Gap and Toys 'R' Us.

"You don't say 'hello,' you don't say 'how are you?' — you just ask for my zip code,' responds Ms. Goldman, who is on leave from the Washington-based advocacy group Center for Democracy and Technology. "I don't want that kind of relationship with you. I just want to buy my shirt."

Leonard Levine, a computer science pro-fessor at the University of Wisconsin-Mil-

As personal information becomes ever more easily amassed, many view safeguarding it as a sort of 'street smarts' for the 1990s.

waukee, said consumers should be wary of "2cents-off-on-a-can-of-beans cards"

name for supermarket savings club cards.

Today, the store that issues them tracks buying habits in order to offer customized coupons and manage its own inventory. To-morrow, there is nothing to prevent infor-mation that a customer is buying bacon and cigarettes from making its way to an insurance company, Mr. Levine said. His advice: Pay the extra pennies and preserve privacy.

Here and there, ordinary Americans are becoming privacy crusaders. Barbara Joyce of suburban Washington began a privacy campaign after telemarketers called her home one

'It is an intrusion of privacy," Ms. Joyce said. "These people are calling a phone I pay for, in my house, for my convenience." She added, "Everybody has a right to be left alone in your own home.

She fought back with a little-known weapon: a federal law called the Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991, which, among other things, allows people to demand that telemarketers remove them from call lists or pay them financial penalties.

or pay them financial penalties.

Using detailed logs, she found the callers often did not properly identify themselves or their companies and routinely called back after she asked them to stop. Though the system is cumbersome and frustrating, Ms. Joyce said that so far, she has won more than \$5,000 in certifyrants. The number of intrusive calls to settlements. The number of intrusive calls to her house has dropped from two each night to one each week.

"If everybody would ask to have their telephone numbers placed on the do-not-call list, it would choke the industry and lead to its demise," she said.

Donald Knox of Phoenix, Arizona, routinely blocks direct-market mailings by complaining that the material is sexually offensive. It does not matter to him what the solicitation actually says—he fills out a form provided by the U.S. Postal Service to stop deliveries. For him, it is worth the effort "to kick them in the shins."

Even his telephone answering ma-chine warns: "If you're calling me on a telemarketing thing, please hang up now. 'Right now!'

Whatever steps people take, a file is being built on them somewhere that may or may not be accurate.

"There really are ghosts — every one of us is followed around by an invisible profile that purports to be who we are," said Don Goldhammer, a University of Chicago computer

He tries to limit dissemination of his particulars by stamping his checks with this mes-sage: "By cashing this you agree not to use any information contained on it."

REDIT reports frequently contain errors, said Ms. Goldman, the privacy expert, who urges consumers to review their credit reports before an important transaction. "They should do it before their credit comes into play," so that they can dispute incorrect information, she said. As more people venture onto the Internet, protection of on-line privacy is a growing

issue. People who take part in on-line dis-

cussions leave their e-mail addresses. Someone seeking sensitive information, such as treatment for AIDS, might not want the activity to be publicly known.

Many Web sites require people first to "register," or fill out a form about themselves. Sines also resell e-mail addresses of visitors, which can feed a glut of junk in the electronic mailbox.

Some Web surfers simply lie when asked for personal information at Web sites, according to an Internet survey conducted last year at the Georgia Institute of Technology. About 40 percent of the 19,000-plus Web users surveyed said they sometimes lie; almost 70 percent of those who decline to register on Web sites said the reason was worry over how the information would be used.

Internet users can ensure that the sites they visit do not hit them with targeted ads by disarming the "cookie" file on a computer — a sort of ID card that gives the site information about the user. Cookies were designed into browsers to bolster Internet business, allowing Web site publishers to track usage and market

In the case of the Radio Shack birthday card,

the company responded quickly to Mr. Meeks's complaints. Company officials apologized and took Mr. Meeks off the birthday card list. They pledged to follow up with a consumer survey to find out just how many people the program irritates. Mr. Meeks said he was gratified by the response.

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POLITICAL

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ADIO Shack representatives said the campaign had generated compliments from consumers, and noted that while the company has collected facts on customers, it had not sold the information to any other company — even though it would be lucrative to do so.

We have the absolutely highest respect for our customers' privacy that you could imag-ine," said David Edmondson, Radio Shack's senior vice president for marketing and sales.

Mr. Meeks says he does not doubt that the

company acted with good intentions --- he just wants businesses to think before they mine data and act on it.

"They don't see it as a privacy issue," he said, adding: "Maybe companies should pause a few moments and ask, 'Just because it can be done, should it be done?' "

Sudan's Islamic Faith Healer Says 60-Cent Miracles Are a Good Deal

By James C. McKinley Jr.

OMDURMAN, Sudan - A crowd starts gathering in the dusty warehouse yard an hour before he appears. They come from all over Sudan, the diseased and the disabled, the blind and the melancholy. They sit cross-legged in long rows in the dirt under a desert sky and wait for the healer, each wrapped in a

private pain. At 4 P.M., Sheikh Abdel Aziz ibn Ali, 32, arrives with a megaphone. He wears his hair in dreadlocks under a shiny green shawl inscribed with a Koranic verse in golden letters. His assistants wade through the crowd of 800 men and boys, carrying the crutches and walking sticks of those they say he has already

"Leave your disease here," he says, as an assistant in a motley green costume holds up megaphone. Then he begins to sing the Koran, verse by verse. As his voice rises hoarse and plaintive into the clear afternoon, some in the crowd begin to sway and rock. A few

As the sheikh's chant grows in intensity, the men in the crowd begin singing amen at the end of each verse. They raise their open palms to heaven. Their muted voices sound like waves crashing on a distant beach. At times the sheikh's voice cracks and he weeps the One man beats his chest and screams.

"Get out of me, devils!" he says. "I am a Muslim man! I am a Muslim man!"

Sheikh Abdel Aziz says he is the only Islamic faith healer in Sudan. To his admirers, he is a miracle worker. Dozens of people will testify that he has cured their diabetes and reversed blindness by reciting the Koran. His followers say he has helped polio victims to walk and fixed leaky heart valves, and removed goiters, made ovarian cysts vanish and healed ugly skin diseases.

But to his detractors, the sheikh is a charlatan who is raking in more than \$2,400 a day from impoverished people. The authorities have arrested him more than once. After noise complaints from

cry out in pain. Others vomit. Some neighbors, the police have barred him from preaching at his home, forcing him to set up shop in an old warehouse on the outskirts of Omdurman, just west of Khartoum, the capital.

For his part, the sheikh declines to accept responsibility for healing people. He says he is doing nothing more than reciting the sacred words Mohammed received from God. God, he says, does

This is different from the Christian faith healers you have in the United States. ' he said in an interview at his house. "We are just reading the Holy

Then he shows a visitor a stack of pink and green medical folders. Each one, he claims, contains proof of a miraculous cure. He points out one woman whose ovarian cysts apparently disappeared after attending his sessions, according to radiology reports. Another file has Xrays detailing the case of a man whose failed kidney repaired itself.

The sheikh points to a line of 10 pairs of eyeglasses on a coffee table. They were taken, he says, from people whose

vision was suddenly restored during his prayer service. In another corner he keeps a stack of canes and crutches from disabled people who have walked on their own after listening to his chant-

"I do the same things that doctors have do," he says. "For this the doctors have become angry with me and they have complained to the government. That is why they try to stop me."

Asked why he charges people 60 cents to enter his sessions, he says: There are some cases where people have spent thousands of dollars on doctors. I can cure them for less than 60

It was impossible to verify the sheikh's claims. But people who attended a recent service were living testament to the power of prayer to at least ease discomfort and depression, if not to

Tariq Issa, a 45-year-old police officer from Dubai, said he had suffered from migraines for years, as well as double vision and bad dreams. He saw several doctors, who could find no ob-

sessions with the sheikh, he says, his symptoms have disappeared.

"it's not magic," he said. "It's just the Holy Koran. He asks people to close

your eyes and concentrate and listen to the Koran.' But many people apparently believe

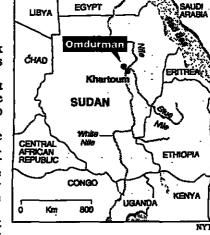
something supernatural is taking place. Hundreds bring dates and jugs of water to the sessions. They said they believe the spirit of God transforms the water and fruit into medicines that can cure malaria and other illnesses.

"The Koran can help people without dates or water," the sheikh said. "But people when they bring water and dates feel they have something spiritual at hand when they go home. It's a matter of psychology. One believer in the crowd, Abbas

Yusef, a 50-year-old unemployed man, said he went blind in one eye and lost some vision in the other at the age of 5 when a goat butted his head and damaged an optic nerve.

He began going to the sheikh's services about a month ago. After three

WEATHER



sessions, he said, he had a sensation of water coming from his eyes. Thirteen sessions later, he began to see blurry images, then figures, faces, objects. "I believe it's Allah," he said. "He's just a liaison between people and God."

Whatever the merits of the sheikh's techniques, his popularity reflects the deeply religious nature of Islamic so-ciety in Sudan. He often preaches up to four times a day, and more than 800 people attend most sessions.

TRAVEL UPDATE

the airline said.

Italy Rail Strike On for Wednesday Dispute Threatens Paris Flights

ROME (AP) - Italian railroad unions said they would go ahead with an eight-hour strike Wednesday, but they canceled railroad reinstated two of three workers who had been dismissed after train accidents.

The railroad said it would try to keep trains running on key routes during the strike Wednesday.

The dismissals angered unionists, who contend that management is using workers as scapegoats for its own failings. The railroad said Monday that it was "freezing" two of the three dismissals for further study.

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PARIS (Renters) - Air France warned Tuesday that its short and mid-range flights could be severely disrupted Weda second strike that had been called for Friday after the state nesday by a dispute between the Paris airport authority and firefighters at the two airports that serve the French capital. A total of 174 flights were set to be canceled Wednesday,

> The airport authority said nearly 250 flights had been canceled Tuesday at Orly and Roissy-Charles de Gaulle airports after the firefighters struck over pay and the application of new safety rules. Negotiations were continuing Tuesday even-ing. Strikes have been called through Thursday.

Time for a Last Smoke on BA LONDON (AP) - British Airways said Tuesday that it

would ban smoking on all its airplanes, giving people a little less than three weeks to light up on the last few smoking flights.

The system-wide ban will take effect on March 29. British Airways had already halted smoking on 95 percent of its

flights, including those within Britain and to the United States

and most of Western Europe. But the airline had continued to allow smoking on a handful of routes, including those to Spain, Latin America and parts of Asia and Eastern Europe.

Middle East Airlines to Cut Koutes

BEIRUT (AFP) - Middle East Airlines, which has hit a period of turbulence in recent months, is to discontinue service to several nonprofitable destinations throughout the world. The airline's managing director, Mohammed Hout, said Monday that within the next three months Middle East would end service between Beirut and Accra, Ghana; Bahrain; Berlin; Brussels; Copenhagen, and Kano, Nigeria. Later, it will

drop flights to Sao Paulo and a Kuala Lumpur-Sydney route. He said substitute accords were being sought with other airlines, including Air France, whose former managing director, Christian Blanc, is on the board. A new board was elected in January to turn around Middle East's ailing finances.

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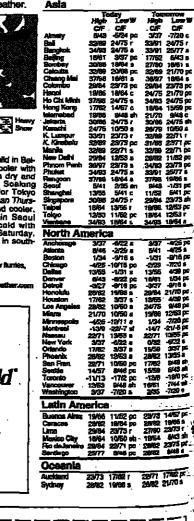
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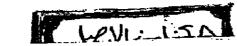
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THE AMERICAS

Woman Who Reportedly Had Clinton Encounter Testifies to Grand Jury

By Brian Knowlton tional Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON - A former White House volunteer who allegedly had an intimate encounter with President Bill House volunteer who allegedly had an intimate encounter with President Bill Mrs. Willey approached him with a story of personal and financial distress. He intern who allegedly had an 18-month several hours here Tuesday before a

Kathleen Willey, the former volunteer, arrived at the federal courthouse here accompanied by an FBI agent working for the independent counsel, Kenneth Starr, apparently a sign that she is cooperating with his inquiry. She did not have a lawyer with her.

Prosecutors were expected to ask Mrs. Willey about reports that a major Demo-cratic Party contributor, Nathan Landow, had urged her to change her account of a November 1993 incident in Mr. Clinton's office and deny that the president had fondled her.

Mrs. Willey, according to another former White House aide, Linda Tripp, emerged from the office with her blouse untucked and her makeup smudged. Mr. Landow, a wealthy Maryland de-

veloper with links to Vice President Al Gore, has denied any effort to influence Mrs. Willey, though he has admitted having met with her several times as a

Mrs. Willey reportedly said in a de-position she filed in the Paula Jones sexual misconduct case against Mr. Clinton that the president fondled her and placed her hand on his crotch when

she went to his office to ask for a full-time job. The incident was first reported to show that Mr. Clinton's alleged sexulast summer in Newsweek magazine.

Mr. Clinton has acknowledged in his several hours here Tuesday before a federal grand jury as prosecutors investigating the Monica Lewinsky case increasingly focused on possible efforts to obstruct justice. ington Post. Unknown to either of them. Mrs. Willey's husband committed sui-

cide the same day.

In a separate development, the federal judge in Arkansas who will preside over the Jones trial, Susan Webber Wright, has rejected a request by several news organizations to lift the "gag order" in the case, saying that the news media had exhibited "a callous disregard of the right of the parties to a fair trial."

She also reaffirmed an earlier ruling that excludes evidence about the Lewinsky matter from the Jones suit as not being pertinent to the core of the case. At the White House, aides said Mr. Clinton was unlikely to attend the Jones

trial, set to open May 27. "He's already testified," said Michael McCurry, the presidential spokesman. "I don't have news organizations to open pretrial docanything that indicates he's going to be in the suit, recorded Jan. 17, can be tion that is unsealed would be accurately

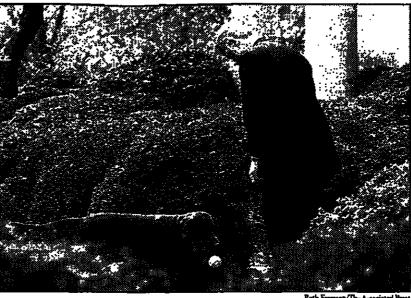
to mean that a sitting president could not be compelled to testify.

al overtures to Mrs. Jones in an Arkansas hotel room seven years ago were part of affair with Mr. Clinton.

Mrs. Willey's appearance before the grand jury delayed by at least a day a return appearance by Betty Currie, the president's personal secretary. Mrs. Currie is considered central to clearing up the smoke around allegations that Mr. Clinton or his friend Vernon Jordan might have sought to induce Ms. Lewinsky, a former White House intern, to lie about her alleged affair with the pres-

Judge Wright, in her ruling, acknowledged that evidence about Ms. Lewinsky's relationship with Mr. Clinton might help Mrs. Jones's attorneys es-tablish the president's sexual habits, but-added that it would say little about whether Mrs. Jones was sexually harassed. To admit the evidence, she said, would frustrate the timely resolution of this case.

Rejecting the request from several uments to the press, she wrote: "The movants' antidote for curing their own Mr. Clinton's videotaped deposition misreporting assumes that any informaplayed at trial. Donovan Campbell, Mrs. reported, an assumption the court is Jones's lead lawyer, said that he read a simply not willing to make given the Supreme Court decision issued in May



Bill Clinton playing fetch with his dog in the White House Rose Garden.

phone calls to and visits with Mrs. Willey, asked her to deny that Mr. Clinton made a sexual advance toward her.

form" to change her story, he told The Washington Post.

Mrs. Willey about a three-page document priately with anybody. o mean that a sitting president could not not under seal."

ABC News and Newsweek have reported that Mr. Landow, in repeated

Mrs. Willey was deposed by Mrs.

That Ms. Tripp has said Ms. Lewinsky gave her. The document directs Ms.

The document directs Ms.

Tripp to tell Mrs. Jones's lawyers that, close Clinton confidant, Bruce Lindsey,

upon reflection, she doubted that Mrs. Willey had been sexually accosted.

"I now do not believe that what she Mr. Landow denied any such over-tures to Mrs. Willey. "I have never given her anything in any way, shape or form" to change her story, he told The blouse, etc.," and that "I have never Prosecutors were also expected to ask observed the president behave inappro-

later this week, in what would be the deputy White House counsel's third appearance before the grand jury. He has denied any connection to the docu-

It emerged, meanwhile, that James McDougal, the former business partner of the Clintons who was viewed as a potentially important prosecution witness in the Whitewater investigation against them, was in solitary confinement when he died Sunday in a Texas prison, despite a known history of se-

rious medical problems.

Mr. McDougal had been placed in a cell by himself Saturday after refusing to undergo a drug test. He collapsed and died Sunday morning between cell checks conducted every half-hour. An autopsy pointed to a heart attack.

The first news release issued by the Federal Medical Center at Fort Worth, Texas, where Mr. McDougal was imprisoned, had failed to disclose the soltary confinement. Defending that punishment, a prison spokesman said, "Inmates in that unit are seen much more intensely than those in the general population, not only by medical services staff but by the unit officer."

Mr. McDougal had been similarly segregated in November for refusing to provide a urine sample.

But his personal physician, Dr. Noland Hagood, said that he was not concerned that Mr. McDougal had been placed in solitary confinement.

"I wouldn't think twice about him being alone," Dr. Hagood said, "unless he was having some kind of acute med-

Congressman Sued in Bugging Of House Republican Leaders

WASHINGTON - Representative John Boehner has filed suit against Representative Jim McDermott, accusing him of publicly disclosing an intercepted conference call involving Republican leaders.

The suit, filed in federal district court here, accuses Mr. McDermott, Democrat of Washington, of violating the Electronic Communications Privacy Act by turning over a tape of the illegally recorded conference call to re-

Mr. Boehner of Ohio, who heads the House Republican Conference, is seeking punitive damages and \$30,000 in civil fines.

A Florida couple illegally recorded a conversation they picked up on a police scanner involving Mr. Boehner, Speaker Newt Gingrich, and other House leaders in December 1996. The leaders were discussing the political ramifications of the ethics charges brought against Mr.

Smoking's Cost to Medicaid

BERKELEY, California - Taxpayers, smokers and nonsmokers alike, had to come up with \$12.9 billion to cover smoking-related Medicaid costs just five years ago, according a new nationwide report.

Although the tobacco industry often argues that smoking cigarettes is a matter of individual choice, these estimates show that this harmful product imposes significant economic burdens on state taxpayers, who have no choice but to bear them," concludes the report, which

relies on a model used by states suing the industry.

The findings, published Monday in Public Health Reports, are billed as the first comprehensive look at expenditures in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

The \$12.9 billion, which was drawn from 1993 data, totals \$322 billion over a 25-year period, the study said. That does not include smoking-related expenses incurred by Medicare and private insurance.

Quote/Unquote

Antonin Scalia, the Supreme Court justice, saying Congress, not the courts, should decide crucial issues in modern life: "In my Constitution, if you want the death penalty, pass a statute. If you don't want the death penalty, pass a statute the other way. You want a right to abortion, create it the way most rights are created in a democracy: pass a law. If you don't want it, pass a law the other way. And if you want a right to suicide, the same. Having the Constitution mean whatever five out of nine justices think it ought to mean these days is not flexibility but rigidity.'

Away From Politics

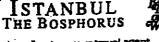
 A virulent strain of streptococcus bacteria has infected 117 Texans in the past three months — more cases than that state typically sees in a year — killing 26 people, including nine children, state health officials said. Medical investigators said they could not explain the upsurge in cases, most of which occurred around Austin, Houston and San Antonio.

Law enforcement and Internet leaders have started a national tip line aimed at helping parents easily report attempts to abuse their children by people the children encounter in cyberspace. The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children will staff the Cyber Tipline, which can be reached through the Internet at www.missmgkids.com/cybertip.

• A New Jersey teenager, accused with his girlfriend of murdering their newborn and leaving the body in a motel trash bin, pleaded guilty to manslaughter and agreed to testify against the child's mother. Brian Peterson, 19, who faced a trial May 4 on first-degree nurder charges with his former high school girlfriend, Amy Grosshere admitted in a plea bargain to recklessly Amy Grossberg, admitted in a plea bargain to recklessly causing the baby boy's death. (Reuters)

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Troopergate Story a 'Charade,' Writer Says

By Howard Kurtz Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON --- David Brock, the conservative reporter who conducted the first major excavation of President Bill Clinton's personal life, now says he dug the dirt for ideological reasons. And he says he believes his sources exaggerated the details. And he has regrets about the whole seamy story.

Working with Mr. Clinton's Arkansas enemies, "I conspired to damage you and your presidency," Mr. Brock writes in an open letter to Mr. Clinton in the April issue of Esquire.

His justification for the article was a "charade," he says, "I wanted to pop you right between the eyes." [Mr. Clinton has accepted the apology, The Associated Press reported. "The president

read the article, and he appreciates and accepts Mr. Brock's apology, 'a White House spokesman said.] It was Mr. Brock's "Troopergate" article in The American Spectator, filled with allegations of womanizing, that triggered the

chain reaction that led to the Monica Lew-

insky investigation. The December 1993 piece, based on the account of four Arkansas troopers, mentioned for a ride." a woman named "Paula" who, it was said, to file her lawsuit against Mr. Clinton. And it contempt for Hillary." was in a deposition in the Jones case that Mr.

Clinton denied having had sex with Ms. Lew
"I'm not saying they made the whole thing up," Mr. Brock said. "I do think there was

Mr. Brock, who was dropped by the Spectator last fall, has been dumping on his former porting. allies in the conservative movement since they trashed his 1996 biography of Hillary Rodham Clinton.

seem happier than ever these days: They can

fill their beloved cars with gasoline for under

The same is true across the United States,

where motorists are pulling up to the pumps and

happily discovering that the price of gasoline, adjusted for inflation, is selling for less than the

high-grade crude oil in the last five months to

liter) it used to fetch in the early 1960s.

A self-described "pariah," he has gone the mea culpa route in trying to shed his old image as rightist hit man and position himself as a respected mainstream writer.

Last summer, Mr. Brock posed for Esquire shirtless and tied to a tree, saying among other things that some of his former conservative pals have turned on him because he is gay. This approach has yielded a publicity bon-

anza. "There's no career purpose in distancing myself from my former work." Mr. Brock said. "In some ways it just raises more questions. People should just read the article and make their own judgments about my

In the original Spectator piece, Mr. Brock, who was put in touch with the troopers by a Clinton archenemy, Cliff Jackson, reported the officers' charges that the governor had used them to arrange liaisons with various women. The Los Angeles Times reported the same allegations, but without some of the highly personal innuendo about both of the Clintons in Mr. Brock's 11,000-word piece.

Mr. Brock now writes in Esquire that the troopers, by aligning themselves with Clinton ponents, "have greatly damaged their credibility," and wonders whether "they took me

He says the troopers, then seeking a book had expressed her willingness to be the gov-contract, "were greedy and had slimy ernor's girlfriend. That prompted Paula Jones motives," and in particular had "palpable

insky, sparking the current allegations of per- probably room there for them to exaggerate." In retrospect, he said, he should have "been much more skeptical" of what he was re-

> "Because of the ideological desire to damage Clinton," he said, "there was a certain willingness to believe all of it,"

set by the Organization of Petroleum Ex-

Asian economic crisis deepened and demand

for fuels in the Pacific Rim decreased.

In addition, milder winter weather in much

of the United States and Europe reduced de-

stations selling it for under \$1, according to a

Nationally, the average price for regular

mand for heating fuel.

As for using the name "Paula" to describe a woman that one trooper said he brought to Mr. Clinton's Little Rock hotel room in 1991, Mr. Brock said he never imagined that she could be identified. "I should have removed the name," he writes. "It was just an oversight."

In describing "my ransacking of your per-sonal life," Mr. Brock tells Mr. Clinton in Esquire, "there was an open political agenda at work as well, which must have colored my judgment at least at the margins."

He added, "I did regard you, the first Democratic president in my adult life, as an ideological threat." Mr. Brock also pleads guilty to "hypo-

crisy" for having argued, in his book about Clarence Thomas and Anita Hill, that "sexual witch-hunts" should not be used for partisan advantage, only to leap into the very same bog himself.

But that, Mr. Brock said, is history. "I've abandoned that form of journalism," he

Midwest Shivering After Winter Storm

CHICAGO — Temperatures plunged Tuesday after a late winter storm that knocked out power to hundreds of thousands of people across the Midwest and touched off flooding in the Southeast.

Frigid air that swooped in behind the blizzard left some Midwesterners shivering in their homes and threatened orchards and nurseries across the South.

At least 12 deaths were blamed on the storm, including 5 people who died in Elba, Alabama, when a dam gave way and flooded the town. Freezing temperatures threatened to turn the floodwaters to ice.

Electricity was out for 260,000 customers of utilities serving northern Illinois and northern Indiana, where hundreds of repair crews fanned out to restring ice-encrusted lines shorted out by high winds or snapped by falling trees.

Your Guide To 129 Top French Companies

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Herald Eribune

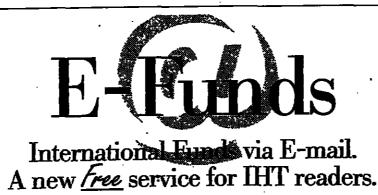
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Fill 'er Up: A Gallon Under \$1

LOS ANGELES - Southern Californians porting Countries in November, just as the

adjusted for inflation, is selling for less than the long-forgotten 25 cents a gallon (6½ cents per \$1.04 a gallon, with nearly half of the service

The chief cause is a \$10 drop in the price of petroleum market analyst, Trilby Lundberg. An auto club official said that along with

a four-year low of just under \$15 a barrel.
According to industry analysts, prices have been driven down by several factors, including a 10 percent increase in the output quota

Analyst data chief of the last state that along with the strong U.S. economy, the low gasoline prices contribute to a national sense of well-being that stimulates "not only a desire to travel, but a feeling that you can afford it."

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THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

By Kenneth J. Cooper Washington Post Service

NEW DELHI - President K.R. Narayanan of India gave the Hindu nationalist party a chance Tuesday to prove that it could command a parliamentary majority and form a stable government after the nation's indecisive election.

Mr. Narayanan stopped short of extending a formal invitation to the Bharatiya Janata Party to put together a new government. The party leads a multi-party bloc that fell 20 seats short of a majority in the 545-member lower house

Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who would be-come prime minister in a government led by the Bharatiya Janata Party, met with Mr. Narayanan in his hilltop mansion a few hours after receiving the president's letter of invitation.

Mr. Vajpayee said his party would submit on Wednesday the documentary evidence that Mr. Narayanan requested to show the party's ability to control a

India's next government will be its fourth in less than two years, a period of political instability in the world's largest democracy that has accompanied the decline of the once-dominant Congress

The Bharatiya Janata Party, the largest party in the last Parliament and the new one, formed a minority government with Mr. Vajpayee as prime minister immediately after the last election in 1996. That government lasted 13 days before it lost a vote of confidence. By once again turning to the Bharatiya

Janata Party first, Mr. Narayanan followed parliamentary traditions that give ernment. priority to the largest party and leader of the biggest bloc. But his caution in withholding a for-

mal invitation reflected his stated concern with restoring political stability.
Mr. Vajpayee, 71. said. We are confident that we can get a majority.' The election commission's tally of

539 members elected so far showed the Bharatiya Janata Party and 11 allies with 253 seats, the Congress and its allies with 167 and the United Front with 98. Minor parties and independents hold the Four districts are still to hold elec-



JUMPING FOR JOY - A student being tossed in the air by his classmates to celebrate his passing grade on the entrance exam for Tokyo University on Tuesday. Less than a third of the 9,741 applicants were admitted.

Chinese Lawmakers Approve Overhaul

The Associated Press

BELIING — The Chinese legislature overwhelmingly approved a govern-ment overhaul Tuesday in an attempt to bring the tenets of capitalist-style market reforms into the inner workings of gov-

With only 63 abstentions and opposing votes, 2,814 delegates to the Com-Party-dominated National People's Congress approved the legislation, a wide margin even by the stan-dards of the largely docile legislature.

Although victory was never in doubt, the leadership appeared unusually anxious to limit debate. The vote came five days after the plan was introduced. No open, congresswide debate was held. and deputies instead deliberated the merits in largely closed-door discussion

The government restructuring, the most ambitious since market reforms waste, corruption and state meddling in tion Industry Ministry.

more than a quarter of government minmillion-member central bureaucracy by

The bureaucrais, who once set steel production and grain rations among other targets, would be prevented from micromanaging industries. Beijing instead would rely on finance and tax policies, the way most countries do, to steer the economy.

President Jiang Zemin observed the vote from inside the main assembly room of the Great Hall of the People. Next to him sat Deputy Prime Minister Zhu Rongji, the top economic policymaker, who is expected to be named prime minister before the assembly ends session next week.

The reforms are aimed at reducing

began pushing aside central planning in business. They are part of an effort to China 20 years ago, could eliminate fend off the financial crises afflicting other Asian countries and spur flagging istries and commissions and cut the 8 economic growth by ridding the economy of the last traces of central plan-

> But the overhaul will face strong opposition from well-entrenched, privileged bureaucrats, who sabotaged similar efforts in the 1980s. The reforms calls for elimination of

> 11 of the 40 government ministries and ommissions The ministries of electric power, pe-

> troleum and chemicals are to become state-owned corporations, in keeping with ambitions to develop internationally competitive industries.

New agencies will be formed to promote advanced technology, such as the Defense Science and Technology In-dustries Commission and the Informa-

KOREA: Political Prisoners Languish

Continued from Page 1

Thus, under the rule of a former dissident, South Korea continues to imprison far more political offenders than many other countries in the region. But in South Korea, which was invaded in forgiven far more serious crimes in ex-1950 by North Korea and which worries constantly about the threat of North Shin Io, one of a group of North Korean Korean attack or subversion, tolerance commandos who in 1968 killed 34 South of communism seems to many to be an maffordable luxury.

The prison authorities refused to allow Mr. Woo or other political offenders to be interviewed. Indeed, they have allowed Mr. Woo just one visitor in the last four decades: an uncle whom they found and took to the prison in a failed effort to get Mr. Woo to renounce communism.

Minkahyup, a human rights group in South Korea, says it knows of 478 "prisoners of conscience" in South Korean jails. Nineteen were arrested in just the first two months of this year, the group says, and Mr. Kim is treading carefully.

"If Kim Dae Jung releases them right away, that would distract from his eco-

nomic program," said Young Jack Lee, a relative of the president's who runs the Maryland-based Korean Institute for Human Rights. "First things first. First we must rebuild the economy."

"I talked to the brother of a prominent prisoner of conscience in South Korea," added Mr. Lee, whose institute has close ties to President Kim. "I said, 'Your brother has been in prison for many years, so why can't he wait one more year!

That may sound like an odd suggestion from the head of a human rights institute. But Mr. Kim and his circle of friends are at least as much pragmatists as idealists, and they have learned from repeated political failures to become acutely sensitive to public opinion.

"It will be very hard to let them free, because of public feeling," said Kim Min Seok, a young member of Parliament and presidential ally who spent three years in prison for his anti-government campaigning under the previous military dictatorship. "It will be very hard to release pro-North prisoners who don't give up their pro-North ideology."

To be sure, associates say that Mr. Kim believes it is ridiculous for South Korea to have political prisoners and that he would like to release them at a politically convenient time. It is also true that some of the 23 men dubbed "long-term political prisoners" by human rights groups — the men like Mr. Woo, all of whom have been jailed for more than 27 years - were arrested as spies or infiltrators.

Yet lawyers and organizations like Minkahyup, Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International argue that while some of those people might originally have been imprisoned for crimes like espionage, the reason they have remained

Names V behind bars so long is their political views. In Mr. Woo's case, for example, four of the North Koreans on the boat were released shortly after their arrest

when they renounced communism. Other North Koreans have also been change for denouncing the North Kim Koreans while trying to assassinate the South Korean president, was quickly

now a prominent figure in the South Kim Hyun Hui, a young North Kores woman who in 1987 blew up a South Korean airliner with 115 people abound also was particularly the state of the st also was pardoned after switching sides and is now living freely in Seoul.

released after he "converted" and is

Under South Korean law, even the most depraved of common criminals are normally released after serving 20 years. But an exception is made for Commi nists who do not renounce their views.
"We were allowed to leave only if we

would denounce communism," recalled Kim Song Myon, who spent 44 years in South Korean prisons until international pressure led to his release two years

Kim Plans Amnesty Friday for Prisoners

SEOUL - President Kim Dae

Jung is expected to grant a special amnesty Friday after receiving approval from the cabinet, a presidential spokesman said.

"A special cabinet meeting will be opened on Friday, and the amnesty is expected to be carried out as soon as it has been approved," the spokesman said, adding that no fur-ther details would be available until

The Youhap news agency quoted an unnamed senior government official as saying the number of prisoners to be released under amnesty would be "very large."

News reports said the amnesty

was expected to affect dozens of political prisoners, including the dissident writer Hwang Sok Yong.

Amnesty International has de-manded the release of Mr. Hwang, who is at the top of its list of more than 400 alleged political prisoners jailed by Mr. Kim's predecessors.

Mr. Hwang, who strongly de-nounced South Korea's past military dictatorship, began a seven-year term in 1993 on charges of making an unauthorized visit to

TOKYO: Nervous Nation Tries to Puzzle Out Finance 'Big Bang'

Continued from Page 1

sive steps to try to solve the problems once and for all through deregulation.

declared that the worst of the economic crisis is over. But with Big Bang steps to begin April 1, and foreign powerhouses like Merrill Lynch & Co. and Fidelity Investments preparing to unleash a major push here, people are not so sure. What's going on?" said Michiy-

oshi Shimizu, a restaurant owner. "I have no idea, and I'm running a company. It's so complicated. I want to see what is going to happen after April."

Mr. Shimizu said he was worried that the nation's financial system was so weak that it might collapse in the face of deregulation and foreign competition. Consumer confidence is so shaky that

home safe sales have soared. There has been a proliferation of investment seminars, money magazines and personal finance books, including six recently published books on Citibank alone. Some magazines and television

shows urge people to jump into the new world of currency exchange deals and mutual funds. Others warn of con men, big losses and further bankruptcies. A string of bribery scandals involving several major banks and securities companies has shattered public trust in Japanese institutions, say analysts. So has corporate restructuring and growing concerns about pension systems.

On April 1, foreign exchange transactions will be deregulated, and restrictions on securities trading commissions

34 Dole out

as Toast topper

35 River islet

The cabinet approved four Big Bang

bills on Tuesday aimed at opening fi-Top Japanese economic officials have nancial markets to greater competition, The Associated Press reported.

[One of the proposed laws would give brokerages more freedom in setting commissions and make it easier for companies to enter the securities business by eliminating the need for licenses. Another would abolish barriers between banks, brokerages and insurers by March 2001, allowing each to compete in the others' business. The remaining bills would give the government more leeway in cleaning up bad loans by allowing it to set up a special company to repackage prop-erty-backed loans into bonds.]

With more bankruptcies possible, the government is trying to build a safety net under the system. The banking deposit insurance system is being strengthened, and plans are under way a private-banking ad that says "those to establish similar systems for the insurance and securities industries.

The goal of the changes is to create a thriving market that would funnel money to companies throughout Japan. "It could give rise to whole new industries, reviving the Japanese economy," said Tetsuo Fujita, a senior economist at the Japan Research Institute.

But he also warned that if the changes resulted in more bankruptcies and unemployment, there could be a backlash against the deregulation effort.

loosened. Under legislation before Par- vive. Merrill Lynch is spending as liament, banks would get permission to much as \$300 million to take over 30 years of dithering and with many other sell mutual funds. Other changes branch offices of Yamaichi Securities East Asian countries facing similar pres- already in place aim to get more money Co. and to hire 2,000 of its brokers. The age until it crashed in November.

GE Capital Services Corp., a subsidiary of GE Capital, is taking over the entire sales staff and new business of Toho Mutual Life Insurance Co., the 12th-largest life insurer. The joint venture is to begin operations April 1.

"This is a huge market," said Mi-chael Fraizer, president of GE Capital's insurance operations. "There's restructuring going on in every segment of every industry. That's not a bad environment" to be entering the market.

In a few weeks, Fidelity Investments is to begin selling mutual funds by telephone. It plans to focus much of its efforts, an executive said, on teaching consumers about the concepts of risk management and financial planning.

Japan is hungry for such information, if Citibank's experience is any guide. Twice a month since October, it has run assets" should call for investment advice. Each time the ad runs. Citibank said, it gets 300 to 600 responses.

The success has even surprised New York headquarters, where executives had thought the wealthy would not re-

spond to such an ad, a spokesman said. But many Japanese appear ready to chuck protocol and tradition. Mr. Shimizu, for instance, bought auto insurance from an American company, because it was cheaper. He said he might buy life Analysts say smaller Japanese se-curities companies are not sure to sur-shift some of his money to Ciubank.

Suicide Called Possibility In Crash of SilkAir Jet

The Associated Press

SINGAPORE — Investigators said Tuesday they were considering suicide by a pilot with a history of troublesome behavior as a possible cause of the SilkAir jet crash in Sumatra that killed 104 people.

Greg Feith of the U.S. National Transportation

Safety Board said at a news conference in Singapore that suicide was "one of many things" that could be assumed as the cause of the Dec. 19 crash, based on information collected so far. The Asian Wall Street Journal reported Tuesday that

investigators were trying to determine whether Captain Tsu Way Ming sent the plane into a suicidal plunge. The SilkAir Boeing 737-300 plummeted from nearly seven miles high (about 10,600 meters) into the Musi River in Indonesia.

The chief investigator of the accident, Oetarjo Diran. said: "We have just started the investigation, but that doesn't mean we have said suicide. I think we cannot discount anything right now, not even foul play." Captain Tsu had been withdrawn from an instruct-

ors' program and had a history of disagreements with the co-pilot on the doorned flight, Mr. Diran said. Mr. Diran confirmed that the flight data recorder stopped recording "several minutes" before the plane went down, and said that the cockpit voice

recorder had stopped five to seven minutes before the flight data recorder. The Asian Wall Street Journal said this suggested either "an unusual form of system failure" or that the

crew had turned off the recorders intentionally.

No argument was heard between the pilot and copilot, however, before the voice recorder stopped aping, Mr. Diran said.

One of the most unusual aspects of the SilkAir crash is that the plane was cruising at 34,840 feet when it fell. Most plane crashes occur on takeoff or landing. A sudden plunge in the midst of flight usually suggests a bomb or catastrophic system fail-

SUHARTO: President Re-elected

Continued from Page 1

brought his 200 million countrymen as the price of their political among investors comes from Mr. expectations of a deep recession reliable scenario for succession. this year. The economy is Even with a vice president in hobbled by a huge foreign debt, a place, there are fears of a power wounded banking system and a struggle and possible instability if severely weakened currency.

As if these problems were not enough, Indonesia has been hit by its worst drought in 50 years, ruining harvests of foodstuffs and important exports.

Mr. Suharto's associates say he is determined to conquer this final, greatest challenge of his presidency. "He told us that he was already older than the Prophet Mohamad," said Lieutenant General Yunus Yosfiah, a member of the electoral assembly. but that with a fighting spirit and adherence to the Indonesian soldiers' oath he was prepared to devote his soul, not to mention his possessions, to the country.

Mr. Suharto's possessions are an issue for his critics, who say the fortune amassed by the president and his six powerful children amounts to at least \$30 billion. One analysis of his reluctance to fulfill the terms of his agreement with the IMF is that he is seeking to protect this wealth. Mr. Suharto's political dom-

inance has endured in part because there is no real alternative. He has systematically eliminated potential rivals, changing his vice presidents every five years and

BRIEFLY

regularly shuffling military leaders to insure their loyalty to him. Part of the persistent insecurity

he dies or is incapacitated.

Despite Mr. Suharto's uncontested re-election, there is a spreading sense within the country's middle class that the time has come for a change. A younger generation of better-educated and moreaffluent Indonesians is hungry for a more democratic system.

"In our hearts, we know Suharto has to be replaced," said Abdurrahman Wahid, the country's most influential Muslim leader, in January. "But the prob lem is, there is a difference of tween our idealism and the reality with Gets Clean Bill a

Thousands of protesters, most of them students, demonstrated in four cities Tuesday for democratic reform and against the re-election the Associated of Mr. Suharto, The Associated Press reported from Yogyakarta. ress reported from Yogynson
The police scuffled briefly
10 of whom were

Press reported nom
The police scuffled briefly
with protesters, 10 of whom were
arrested for attending a banned
political rally in Jakarta.

At universities in the capital and
other major cities on the island of
Java, students marched and
should slogans urging the ouster
of the president.

CROSSWORD

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30 Stout relative

31 "Funny About Love" star Christine

32 Use, as a cot

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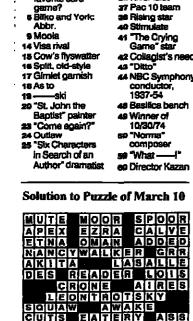
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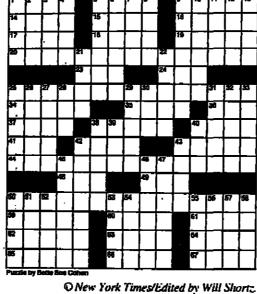
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55 Car with a bar

58 Self-confident

57 Cry to the queue



Bomb on Pakistan Train Kills 10

LAHORE, Pakistan — A bomb exploded Tuesday on a train entering a station in Lahore, killing 10 people and wounding more than 80, the police said.

The explosion in Lahore, capital of Punjab Province in the east, followed two blasts Monday that killed 13 people and wounded at least 50.

No one has taken responsibility for any of the attacks, but the government blamed India. The bombing Tuesday was on a train crammed with

passengers that was rolling into the Walton station, near the home of Prime Minister Mian Nawaz Sharif. A Foreign Ministry statement said the three explosions were part of a well-orchestrated terrorist plan" carried out by Indian intelligence, the state-run news agency said. (AP)

Nuclear Cargo Blocked in Japan

ROKKASHO, Japan — Officials, angry about the use of this remote fishing village as a nuclear dumping site, refused Tuesday to allow a ship carrying 30 tons of highlevel waste into port.

The British-registered Pacific Swan was to conclude a two-month journey from France by berthing in Rokkasho. In a rare show of defiance, Governor Morio Kimura refused to allow the ship to dock. He said he wanted assurances from Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto that progress was being made toward finding a permanent storage site elsewhere.

Mr. Hashimoto had refused to meet the governor in

Tokyo on Monday, and continued to brush him off on

Jiang Calms Hong Kong Dispute

HONG KONG - President Jiang Zemin of China has helped clear the air in a dispute over Hong Kong's public

broadcasting station, analysts said Tuesday. In Beijing, Mr. Jiang told Hong Kong delegates to the Chinese Parliament on Monday that they were there only to discuss national policy, and should not meddle in the

internal affairs of the former British colony. Last week, Xu Simin, a senior pro-Beijing politician from Hong Kong, ignited a dispute when he attacked the editorial independence of public radio as a remnant of British colonial rule. Mr. Xu called for the station to be

turned into a government mouthpiece. 'Chinese officials are trying to take some steam out of the remark, said Sonny Lo, a political analyst.

Laos Dissident's Death Reported

BANGKOK — A former high-ranking government of-ficial detained for seven years in Laos for advocating democracy in the single-party Marxist state has died in

prison, the U.S. Embassy said Tuesday.

The Laotian Foreign Ministry told the U.S. Embassy in Vientiane that Thongsouk Saysangkhi, 59, died last month of complications from diabetes, an embassy spokesman said. Mr. Thongsouk had been deputy minister of science and

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EUROPE

As Danes Vote Amid Plenty, Immigration Is a Main Issue

By Alan Cowell

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COPENHAGEN - From cradle to grave, welfare beckons here, and so do the tax

From maternity leave on I full pay to subsidized day from hospital beds to classrooms, the Danish comendures: Europe's highest taxes in return for Europe's most vaunted wel-

But there is trouble in this the country's voters go to the polls Wednesday in an early general election, no one stands to gain quite so easily from it as Pia Kjaersgaard, a 51-year-old former social

wing party that seeks we wing party that seeks we wing party that seeks we will stallize on woes that appear only because, parawoeful only because, paradoxically, for 20 years, Danes have never had it so good.

Unemployment is down from 12 to 7 percent. Growth is up. Debts are falling. Inflation is down. The Danish family life, there's nothing welfare state, says Prime hidden in the closet," Mr. Es-Minister Poul Rasmussen, is "a fantastic many have begun to question

paign has unfolded, the issue tics. that has put Mr. Rasmussen

don't mind. But we want liament, and Mr. Rasmussen. them to go home" when their the center-left prime minister. wars and turmoil are over.

Indeed, Mrs. Kjaersgaard allowed to integrate into Danish society.'

Mr. Espase amplified Danish People's Party policy: - "It's a different situation in somewhere like the United States that is based on immigration. Denmark has never been like that."

Such views play into the But of worries of old people and the alition

examined him last week.

They found no change."

For the Record

planned nuclear waste transport.

sense among less-wealthy evolve, her party's influence Danes that the number of for- could be increased. eigners from outside the

European Union has begun to overwhelm the same medical services and schools that define the welfare state. In lowest in Europe at 3.7 percent of the 5.2 million population.

"She combines a lot of things that Danes are afraid political correspondent with the center-left daily newspa-Nordic paradise and, when per Politiken. "She plays on people's fears.' Not that her public imagery

suggests anything so low.
After her party did better than expected in a local vote November, Kiaerseaard did not mind when a television crew arrived at 7 A.M. to interview her in her housecoat. For the national elections Wednesday, when she appeared on television to talk about where she stood, she chose her kitchen for the occasion.

"She has a very normal Nyrup pase said. She married her accountant husband at 18, success" — even though raised her children before going out to work and counseled its quality. the inmates of old people's Yet, as the election cam-

And not that she is going to on the defensive is the one that win power. That contest is Mrs. Kjaersgaard has made squarely in the hands of Denber centerpiece: immigration. mark's political princes, Fugitives from troubled whose policies are not very far lands, said Soren Espase, a apart. They are Uffe Ellespokesman for Mrs. mann-Jensen, the head of a Kjaersgaard, "have every center-right opposition bloc right to seek asylum. We among the 10 parties in Par-

Mr. Rasmussen called the election last month, hoping said on television Monday for gains from an economic night, refugees "must not be feel-good factor, but now he lags in opinion surveys and may turn out to have miscalculated.

According to opinion sur-Mrs. Kjaersgaard stands to win 7 percent of the vote, which would give her 13 of Parliament's 175 seats, an increase of 9.

But depending on how conegotiations then

BRIEFLY

Dumas Recovering From Surgery

BORDEAUX - Roland Dumas, a former foreign min-

ister cited in a corruption inquiry involving the oil giant Elf

Acquitaine SA and the sale of French warships to Taiwan,

the Constitutional Council, is fifth in the state hierarchy,

has been summoned to appear March 18 before magistrates investigating the dealings of the Elf conglomerate,

which was formerly state-owned. It was unclear whether

stitutional Council president in the inquiry into Elf kickbacks is unprecedented in French judicial history. (AFP)

Yeltsin Gets Clean Bill of Health

MOSCOW - President Boris Yeltsin, 67, often

"No deviations were found," Mr. Yeltsin said in

remarks cited by Russian press agencies. "The exam was

conducted by the most modern and advanced equipment.

The president also complained that he faced too much

media scrutiny regarding the question of his health. Mr. Yeltsin had a heart attack shortly before he was re-elected to

a second four-year term in July 1996. He underwent

multiple heart bypass surgery in November of that year and then came down with double pneumonia in January 1997.

He was hospitalized with a bad cold in December. (AP)

Anti-nuclear protesters disabled at least 76 train

ticket machines in the Rhine and Main River valleys early

Tuesday, and left leaflets on the platforms denouncing a

plagued by rumors of poor health, said Tuesday that his

doctors found no problems with his health when they

In an interview this week with Le Figaro, Mr. Dumas denied any wrongdoing and said his surgery had been scheduled since December. The summoning of the Con-

he would be able to meet with the magistrates then.

Mr. Dumas, 75, who as president of France's top court.

underwent hip surgery here Tuesday, relatives said.

Through the splintered

prism of Danish politics where any party that wins 2 percent of the vote is guaranteed a proportional number fact, the number is one of the of seats in Parliament - the precise extent of her party's influence is unclear.

Yet, since immigration has been a major issue for many Danes, it has already forced of, said Christine Cordsen, a such mainstream politicians as Mr. Ellemann-Jensen to pledge publicly that, if he wins, he will introduce more restrictive border controls and quicker measures to return refugees to the places they fled. Mrs. Kjaersgaard's show-

ing in opinion surveys.

moreover, reflects a trend in

issues have kindled a fringe of right-wing figures - such as Joerg Haider in Austria and Jean-Marie Le Pen in France whose political capital builds on a sense of threat that heightens xenophobia and nationalism.

Troops searching outside a police station in Armagh that was shelled Tuesday.

Blair Agrees to See Sinn Fein Delegates

LONDON — The IRA's political wing, Sinn Fein, will meet with Prime Minister Tony Blair on Thursday, Mr. Blair's spokesman said Tues-

The Sinn Fein president, Gerry Adams, will lead the delegation to Mr. Blair's Downing Street offices, a Sinn Fein spokesman said. Mr. Adams has made a

meeting with Mr. Blair, his third in three months, a condition of his party's return to the Northern Ireland peace

Sinn Fein was suspended from the negotiations on Feb. 20 after the Irish Republican Army was linked to two murders in the province in violation of a condition of nonviolence imposed on all participants in the talks by the British and Irish govern-The suspension expired

Monday. Sinn Fein bitterly opposed

ed that its return to the talks July 1997.

was by no means guaranteed. It demanded a meeting with the Irish prime minister. Bertie Ahern and with Mr. Blair, but after meeting with Mr. Abern, Mr. Blair said it would be improper to meet with Sinn Fein while it was

suspended from the negoti-Time is running out for the peace negotiators, who have seven weeks to reach a settlement of the 28-year-old Northern Ireland conflict if they are to meet the May 1

deadline they set. Earlier Tuesday Armagh, Northern Ireland, a police station was the target of two or possibly three mortar shells.

There were no reports of any injuries, a police spokesman said. No warning was given and there was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attack.

It was the first mortar attack in Northern Ireland since the Irish Republican Army rethe suspension, and it warn- established its cease-fire in

Ekaterina Gordeeva & Rosalyn Sumners (World Class Ice Skaters)

Borge Ousland (Norwegian Explorer, First Solo Antarctica)

Deepak Chopra (Holistic Healer, Author "Quantum Healing")

(Author "The Third Twin")

Victor O'Reilly (Author "The Devil's Footprint")

Ehud Olmert (Mayor of Jerusalem)

(Novelist, Writer "The Life and Loves of a She-Devil")

The Dalai Lama (Spiritual Leader)

(Motor Racing Legend

Linford Christie (British Track Medallist)

Scott Adams (Author, Cartoonist "The Dilbert Principle")

General George Joulwan

Dr Mahathir Mohamad (Malaysia's Prime Minister)

Lloyd Axworthy (Canadian Foreign Minister)

Markus Wolf (Former East Germany's "HVA" Foreign Intelligence Chief:

Louis Farrakhan (Leader, Nation of Islam)

Daniel Tarschys

Nelson Mandela

Steve Fossen Balloon Enthusiası & Record Holder)

Stephen Covey Amhor "7 Habits of Highly Effective People")

Musician and Composer)

Author, British Conservative MP)

Hillary Rodham Clinton

Soren Jessen-Petersen (Director, UNRCR)

Frank Bruno (Former World Heavyweight Champion,

Ehud Barak (Israel's New Labour Party Leader)

Cyril Ramaphosa

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

Vendela

British Boxer

Norm Thagard (Former MIR US Astronaut)

Robin Cook (British Foreign Secretary)

Jacques Santer (President, The European Commission)

(Actress, Representative, International Rescue

Andrew Morton

Catherine Bertini (Executive Director, World Health) Lood Programme

Emma Bonino (The EU Commissioner of Humanitarian Aid)

Alberto Fujimori (Peru's President)

Terry George (Film Director "Some Mother's Son" on IRA;

(UN Special Commissioner on Iraq.

Kofi Annan (United Nations Secretary General)

Martin Lee (Head of Democratic Party of Hong Kong.

Salman Rushdie (Author "The Satanic Verses")

(President, International Anto Racing Federation)

Uri Geller (Paranormalist)

Maxim Vengerov (Classical Violinist)

Vijav Amritraj (Indian Tennis Star)

Mo Mowlam

Inder Kumar Gujral

(India's Prime Minister)

(British Northern Ireland Secretary)

Ismail Cem (Turkish Foreign Minister)

Alexander Downer (Australia's Foreign Minister)

Wim Wenders (Film Director "The End of Violence".

Norman Augustine (Chairman, Lockheed Martin, Author)

Richard Butler (Chief UN Weapons Inspector for Iraq)





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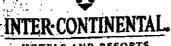
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HOTELS AND RESORTS

Nerves rather than sabers

appear to be rattling.

By Christine Spolar Washington Post Service

TIRANA, Albania — Albama Bajrami has been following the deadly troubles in Kosovo for nearly two weeks, and she is deeply worried.
"Anything could happen," she said, including

one of the most frightening scenarios the 45-yearold dietitian could conceive of: that the people of Albania might be asked to help their brethren across the border in Kosovo, where dozens of people have been killed this month during a Serbian crackdown against ethnic Albanian separatists.

We're too small and very poor, and I don't see how we can do anything," she said, standing on a bit of crumbling sidewalk in this capital. "Probably we could support them morally, but I don't see how

unchecked strife between Serbs and the Albanian into this country, one of the poorest in Europe. majority in the southern province of Serbia could

But after the worst bloodletting in Kosovo this decade, nerves rather than sabers appear to be rattling in Albania. No refugees are pouring into the country or into neighboring Macedonia, which has a sizable

totally outside the rule of law," Mr. Gel-

'It is up to this government in the first

government and ethnic Albanians to re-

frain from force to prevent "a dramat-

ically worrisome cycle of violence and

geni Primakov said at a news briefing,

many, Italy and the United States also

threatened to freeze Serbia's assets

abroad unless it halted violence against

Albanians and began talks on reviving

the province's self-rule status.
"We may have different views and

approaches to various problems, but that

members of the Contact Group," Mr.

Slobodan Milosevic, the following day.

said her office was currently gathering

information and evidence relating to the

events in Kosovo last week and would

continue to monitor any subsequent de-

banians solemnly filed past charred and

bullet-riddled corpses shrouded in long white sheets, trying to identify relatives

killed in the violence. Serbian police threatened to bury the

dead in a mass grave if the decomposing

bodies were not claimed Tuesday. Rela-

charge that the Serbs want to cover up

olence last week is 46 ethnic Albanians

were buried last week at a funeral at-

identified 29 of those killed, including

22 members of the family of Adem

Jashari. Serbia contends Mr. Jashari was

Reporters reached the shed containing

The police stood guard at the entrance

(Reuters and AP)

away with its gun turret pointed at the

A list published in a local newspaper

tended by 30,000 mourners.

The official death toll from the vi-

The Albanians say at least 77 of their

In Kosovo, meanwhile, ethnic Al-

sides, not just Serbia.

velopments.

Russia is for a quick start to dia-

more violence."

logue.'

ethnic Albanian population.

Although Albanians in both Albania and Macedonia took to the streets by the thousands to demon-

For years, Kosovo has been called the potential down in Kosovo — where 9 out of 10 people are tinderbox of the Balkans. Analysts warned that ethnic Albanians - will unleash a tide of refugees "The best thing would be for the Kosovans to

easily undo one of Europe's most unstable regions. stay there and stay in their homes," said Tasim

Mece, a café manager. "If they leave, the Serbs will take over - and that's

what they've been fighting against for all these

Fighting to maintain an equilibrium along its border with Kosovo, Albania appealed last week to Western governments for help. Military analysts in Tirana called the border very porous with numerous mountain paths. The government has requested a meeting with the 16 NATO countries Wednesday in Brussels to discuss the crisis, officials said.

"We don't want to pour gasoline on that kind of fire," said Sokol Gjoka, a spokesman for the For-

The 500 or so ethnic Albanians from Kosovo who attend university in Tirana are muted in their expectations of the government. "We know the problems here and how poor this country is," said Jusuf Hoxha, a medical student who grew up near Pristina. Kosovo's capital. "I don't expect Tirana to support

us strongly — but the common people will."

Albania is still trying to recover from a devastating year of financial woe and political anarchy sparked in February 1997 when several get-rich-quick pyt-amid schemes collapsed, swallowing the life savings of much of the population. The government is trying to shore up a military that abandoned its bases during the civil unrest last year. It also is seeking to address the rampant corruption that led to the crisis.

KOSOVO: Milosevic's Gamble

Continued from Page 1

come to worship warrior saints and dis-

trust all outsiders. Most important, it seemed to offer a solution to the needling problem of cohabitation with other ethnic groups which Tito had quelled with his con-siderable personal authority and a ruthless secret police network.

The triumphalism of the Serbs, not surprisingly, deeply frightened the Slovenes, Croats, Muslims, Macedonians, and ethnic Albanians, who had had their fill of Serbian hegemony under the monarchy that ruled between the wars. Those politicians who spoke of cooperation with Belgrade found themselves ridiculed and alone. As Mr. Milosevic rose to power, nationalist leaders from competing ethnic groups rose alongside

Mr. Milosevic, as president of Serbia did indeed turn the state over to Serbian nationalists. He revoked the limited autonomy and self-rule granted by the Communists to other ethnic groups, including the Albanians in Kosovo.

In Kosovo, however, the indepen-dence movement did not follow the path of such movements elsewhere and take up armed rebellion.

Mr. Milosevic's forces kept a lid on unrest for nearly eight years, and as war raged in the rest of Yugoslavia, there was in Kosovo a deceptive appearance of calm. The ethnic Albanians mounted a disciplined and nonviolent resistance. They set up a shadow government, schools and clinics.

They collected their own taxes. Diplomas and certificates were granted from the nonexistent Republic of Kosovo. All contact with the Serbian community, which now lives in isolated and well-guarded villages and neigh-

borhoods, was severed.

The failure to get concessions from Belgrade, coupled with the decision at the Dayton peace accords to ignore the Kosovo conundrum, increasingly left ethnic Albanians bitter and frustrated.

The growth of the Kosovo Liberation Army and its mounting attacks over the last year have captured the imagination of many here, especially the young. An increasing number of ethnic Albanians no longer speak Serbo-Croatian. Their only contact with Serbs comes when they are stopped, and often abused, by heavily-armed police officers.

It was, ironically, a remark by the U.S. special envoy to the Balkans, Robert Gelbard, who visited Belgrade last month, that many now cite as helping to trigger the latest crackdown. Mr. Gelbard praised Mr. Milosevic for his cooperation in Bosnia and branded the Kosovo Liberation Army as "without

question, a terrorist group."

The statement stunned the ethnic Albanians, and echoed comments by former-Secretary of State James Baker. who argued in 1991 that Yugoslavia should remain one nation, an argument that was apparently interpreted by Mr. Croatian separatists.

Mr. Milosevic, despite the talk of Kosovo as a Serbian homeland, knows he has little time to quell any rebellion. Serbs are not ready to die for Kosovo. Most have never been there.

Yet at the same time he can not afford to lose the province, for it would be the crowning defeat for a man who has already dismembered his country, filled it with some 400,000 embittered Serbian refugees from other parts of the former Yugoslavia, wrecked the economy, and turned Yugoslavia into an international

2 German States Halt Albanian Expulsions

The Associated Press

BERLIN - The federal interior minister, Manfred Kanther, said he saw no reason to stop deporting ethnic Albanian refugees from Yugoslavia, despite decisions Tuesday by two German states to suspend such actions.

The interior ministers of North Rhine-Westphalia and Lower Saxony said they were suspending deportations because of unrest in the Albanians' home province of Kosovo, in Serbia. They added they would encourage the other 14 states to join them until it was clear that the violence had abated.

Asked about the decisions, Mr. Kanther said he saw no reason for a sweeping halt to deportations for those in Germany illegally or whose asylum applications

have been rejected.
"There is so far no evidence that anything at all would happen to for-eigners who have no right to stay in Germany and so are sent back to Yugoslavia," he said.

The states are responsible for carrying out deportations and can stop them for specific groups for up to six months. A longer or nationwide ban requires the

agreement of the federal government.

But since his confirmation, Mr. Klein

U.S. Envoy Accuses Serbs Of Using 'Brutal' Force Against Ethnic Albanians

PRISTINA, Serbia - The U.S. special envoy to the Balkans, Robert Gelbard, accused the Serbian government bard said in a statement after the talks. Tuesday of using "brutal disproportionate and overwhelming" force of trampling on the rule of law and against ethnic Albanians in its southern

province of Kosovo. After talks with Albanian leaders in the province, Mr. Gelbard urged Belgrade to reduce tensions and build confidence so that a political solution to the troubles could be found through dia-

Mr. Gelbard arrived in Pristina, the capital of Kosovo Province, a day after five Western powers imposed sanctions on Belgrade over a police crackdown in Kosovo last week in which at least 77 ethnic Albanians were killed. Mr. Gelbard threatened further moves unless the government started talks on restoring the province's autonomy, which was re-

'Government forces used brutal, dis-



Foreign Minister Nadezhda Mihailova of Bulgaria announcing the decision by her nation and Greece, Macedonia, Romania and Turkey to urge Yugoslavia to restore autonomy to Kosovo.

Lawyer's Plea To Spare Papon **Outrages Jews**

BORDEAUX - Amo Klarsfeld, the tives, who want independent autopsies, French lawyer who is the son of a famed Nazi hunter, provoked an uproar Tues- atrocities. day among relatives of Holocaust victims by urging a jury not to condemn Maurice Papon, an accused Nazi col- and six Serbian police officers. laborator, to life in prison.

Mr. Papon, 87, is accused of ordering kin died in two police sweeps through a the arrest for deportation of 1,560 Jews, region west of Pristina. Twenty-five 223 of them children, in 1942-1944 while serving as the collaborationist Vichy regime's second-highest official in the southwest Bordeaux region and supervisor of its Office for Jewish Ques-

Mr. Klarsfeld, a lawyer for civil the leader of a militant group, the plaintiffs in Mr. Papon's trial for crimes Kosovo Liberation Army. against humanity, told the court that Mr. Papon had acted out of sheer ambition when he ordered the arrest of Jews in the walking into a virtually deserted Srbica, hope of winning a role in a new world order led by Nazi Germany. But unlike in a region that was at the center of the the Nazis, Mr. Klarsfeld said, Mr. Papon crackdown. had not desired the death of his vic-

tims. to the shed, and an armored personnel carrier was parked 45 meters (150 feet) begin his administrative career to commit evil and violence, who would not crowd of about 50 mourners. brutalize children because of their religion, an educated man who is not a bloodthirsty monster," Mr. Klarsfeld said. "In acting out of weakness, cowardice and self-interest, and nothing but self-interest, he crossed the line between self-interest, he crossed the line between good and evil."

Mr. Papon dozed during Mr.

Klarsfeld's closing statement "We are not asking for a life sentence, which would not be fair," Mr. Klarsfeld said. He represents an association of children of deported Jews that is run by his

father, Serge Klarsfeld, the Nazi hunter. deaux, tense after five months of often wrenching testimony, were outraged by

Mr. Klarsfeld's statement. 'It's not possible! I'm dreaming! It's unbelievable!" said Eliane Dommange, who hid in an attic for several weeks with her brother after her parents were

deported to Auschwitz. Maurice David Mattisson, who also a broad consensus existed for more reglost members of his family in Nazi death camps, said, "There cannot be different

levels in crimes against humanity.

A verdict is expected March 25.

strate emotional support, no one is offering much more to end the suffering.

One of the greatest fears here is that the crack-



A traditional ally of Serbia, Russia dissented from the decision Monday by Ethnic Albanians lining up Tuesday to identify relatives slain last week in Prekaz by Serbian police units.

the five other Western powers of the CHILE: Old Soldier Swaps Hats and Becomes Senator for Life Contact Group, which monitors the former Yugoslavia, to bar government credits to Belgrade. Ministers from Britain, France, Ger-

Continued from Page 1

1990 after a national plebiscite voted politicians and the families of dissidents. down his dictatorship. "The damage he has done to this in no way destroys relations between the down his dictatorship.

des, not just Serbia.

An aide said Mr. Primakov would on Tuesday painted himself and his army on Tuesday and hold on as the nation's saviors.

which is a substantial with the said of th

visit Belgrade next Tuesday and hold talks with the Yugoslav president, Although it prospered economically during General Pinochet's rule, Chile At The Hague, the prosecutor of the became an example of brutal dictatorial UN criminal tribunal for the former oppression. By the time General Yugoslavia said the tribunal had the Pinochet's era ended, more than 2,000 dissidents had disappeared and thoujurisdiction to prosecute suspects insands more had been tortured in the volved in the recent violence in name of protecting Chile from a per-The chief prosecutor, Louise Arbour, ceived Marxist threat.

Indeed, the general who cried Tuesday while thanking his wife, children and grandchildren for standing by him through the years is the same man who once responded, when asked by a journalist about mass graves that continue to

be discovered nationwide: "Yes, but sash of honor and a heavy gold chain. what a big economy we have." Rightist senators and their wives

1973 by deposing the Socialist president, Salvador Allende, in a coup. He dissolved Congress and banned political mandated by the constitution rewritten parties. But he allowed a transition to a during his tenure. The move has pro-democratically elected presidency in voked a public outcry from opposition

With the exception of his nemesis, country is too great for his retirement to Fidel Castro of Cuba, no other major heal," said Luisa Toledo, 58, whose Mr. Primakov repeated Russia's view Latin American dictator has stood as his three sons were killed during the that pressure should be applied to both country's patriarch for as long as Gen- Pinochet years. The youngest was 17 eral Pinochet, an anti-Communist who when he was gunned down after a protest by General Pinochet's supporters.

'And this retirement is bringing us no peace. He is still in power as a senator." The government forbade protests on Tuesday around the military academy. Instead, hundreds of Pinochet supporters stood behind iron gates and chanted slo-

gans like "Long live Pinochet!" One young woman waved a banner that said Thank you, General!"

The retirement ceremony was a tableau of old South American brass dinosaurs and military might. In front of a tect and secure the integrity of the fathbackdrop of tanks and anti-aircraft guns, erland, had to speak up in the face of General Pinochet donned a navy blue extreme circumstances," military uniform laden with medals, a red Pinochet said of his coup.

watched a parade of goose-stepping Chilean soldiers, who adhere to the strict Prussian Army conduct codes of which General Pinochet is fond. Snipers kept watch from the roof of the academy as General Pinochet stood next to his wife and President Eduardo Frei, who kept the general waiting 15 minutes before he

arrived and the ceremony could begin. Mr. Frei, part of a center-left coalition that now governs the country, was booed

In General Pinochet's long-anticipated speech, he made no direct comment Milosevic to condone attacks against about human rights violations during his

But he did confront the issue of his 1973 coup against President Allende, the world's first democratically elected Marxist, who divided the country with his socialist policies. General Pinochet alluded to the Allende government as creating a conflict that "threatened the

very base of the fatherland itself."
"The armed forces, destined to pro-

VOLCANO ERUPTS - Lava flowing Tuesday from the Piton de la Fournaise volcano, which had been dormant for six years, on the French island of Reunion. The lava streams did not threaten populated areas.

DEALS: Merger and Acquisition Frenzy Raises Concern Among Regulators About Monopolization of Industries

Continued from Page 1

simply called off their planned marriage. But perhaps no case illustrates the renewed interest in antitrust law better than the government's challenge to Microsoft, one of the most successful and admired companies in the world. At a Relatives of Jews deported from Bor- dramatic, four-hour Senate hearing last Lou Steptoe, former head of the comweek, Republicans and Democrats lined up to declare that the monopolization of the software industry was not acceptable Meagher & Flom office in Washington. and that they expected the Justice Department to do something about it without saying exactly what they had in mind. Observers said it had been decades since they could recall a time when such environment has changed.

> ulation of the economy. There is now widespread accept- acquisitions. And unlike the merger ance of the need for antitrust enforce- booms of earlier eras, in which companies ment on the Hill and in the adminis- in different industries were combined,

who served as a deputy attorney general for antitrust enforcement in the first Clinton administration.

There's been a definite increase in the vigilance of the antitrust authorities and their willingness to say no," said Mary eyebrow, reducing the number of com- to develop a "post-Chicago" school of petition bureau at the trade commission, who is now at the Skadden, Arps, Slate,

At the Justice Department and the trade commission, officials say it's not we're living at a time when large segthat they are any tougher than they were before — it's simply that the economic said Steven Salop of Georgetown Uni-After all, the economy is in the midst of

an unprecedented wave of mergers and

tration," said Steven Sunshine, a partner this time most of the deals involve "stra-tion's preference for lax enforcement was at Shearman & Sterling in Washington tegic combinations" of companies in the bolstered by theories from free-market same industry — deals done with the goal economists showing that companies with of using size to dominate an industry.

And because there has been so much consolidation, deals that might have once gone through without so much as a raised petitors from 10 to nine, now face tough sledding because they would reduce the number of companies to two or three.

*Because of deregulation and globalization and changes in technology, costs for rivals, prevent new firms from versity Law Center. "The role of antitrust in managing that change is significant." But according to Mr. Salop, other

factors also are encouraging regulators to toughen antitrust enforcement. In the 1980s, the Reagan administra-

large market shares are not to be feared because it is in their own interest to lower prices and bring out new products.

By the end of the decade, there began economic thought showing that in the real world of imperfect market competition, companies with large market shares could leverage that advantage to raise ever getting a foothold, and find ways to collude with competitors, all of which could harm consumers in the long run.

But beyond the economics, the polities of antitrust also have changed. Joel Klein, the Justice Department's top antitrust official, was bitterly criticized at his confirmation hearings as someone "who rolls over and plays dead."

seems intent on proving that antitrust enforcement is very much alive.

Richard Gilbert, an economist at the University of California and one of the founders of the post-Chicago school. now warns that standing up to corporate giants may have become so popular that there is a danger that the agencies will try to bring questionable cases to curry favor with the Hill or with voters.

William Baxter, an economist at Stanford University who headed antitrust enforcement at Justice during the Reagan years, described the problem this way: "It's one thing to say that markets tend toward concentration and too much concentration can be bad for consumers. But even if it's true, it's not clear what government ought to do about it. Too many times the antitrust cure winds up being worse than the disease."

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shall as a crucial test of ability to renovate 1 and the money 2naives said aving have been ac-Dayments from drag prople who ran for Con-West sation for crames fraud to illicit enrichment, for

refilment prosecutors

I TOY INSTANT

INTERNATIONAL

Key Arms Inspector Leaves Iraq, Ending First Test of Accord

BAGHDAD - Scott Ritter, the American head of a United Nations team carrying out weapons inspections in Iraq, completed his work Tuesday and left for Bahrain, UN officials said. Since they arrived Thursday, Mr. Ritter and his 50-member team visited eight sites that Iraq considers sensitive, said Janet Ann Sullivan, spokesman for the UN Special Commission, which

oversees the inspections.
Sensitive sites include ministries and headquarters of intelligence or military operations. UN teams generally are ac-

the first test of the agreement that Kofi Annan, the UN secretary-general,

companied by high-ranking Iraqi officials on visits to these sites. Mr. Ritter's inspections were seen as

Iraq agreed to cooperate fully with the UN inspectors and to open eight presidential compounds that it earlier declared off-limits.

The United States had threatened military strikes to force Iraqi cooperation, but relented after the accord was

Iraqi sources said that among the sites visited by Mr. Ritter were barracks of the elite Republican Guards and the Defense Ministry.

"All sites were inspected to the sat-isfaction of the inspection team," Ms. Sullivan said. She gave no details. Mr. Ritter left for Bahrain with "the

majority" of his team, she said, adding that a few stayed behind to work on other operations.

Earlier, the official Iraqi press agency quoted Mr. Ritter as having told the Iraqi side that he "finished his mission without any problems."

■ Annan's Novel Inspection Deal Barbara Crossette of The New York

Times reported from the United Nations,

Mr. Annan has forged another direct link with Iraq by unveiling procedures he devised under which the presidential sites will be inspected.

The novel inspections, which could begin in two weeks, are the latest of a series of steps that a newly assertive Mr. Annan has taken that defer to Iraqi concerns about weapons inspections and in the process allow Baghdad to bypass the Security Council. In the last two weeks, the Iraqis have effectively moved from near-pariab status to regular and direct contact with the highest ranking UN officials.

If President Saddam Hussein continues to abide by his side of the bargain struck with Mr. Annan and does not interfere with arms inspections at any site in Iraq, the United States will be significantly more isolated in the Security Council if it tries to punish Iraq or

prolong sanctions indefinitely. Emboldened, Iraq is already trying to test its power.

The country's foreign minister, Moharnmed Said Sahhaf, wrote to Mr. Annan over the weekend, demanding to know why arms inspectors were not being disciplined for talking to the press

Gor

"despite the promises that have been made to us." High-ranking officials said that they did not know what promises Iraq was talking about.
On Wednesday, Mr. Annan will go to

Washington to meet with President Bill Clinton and other high-level administration officials to talk about Iraq — and American dues owed to the United Na-

The visit comes just after the sec-retary-general made several public statements in the last week supporting the view of some Security Council members that in a resolution last week endorsing Mr. Annan's Baghdad mission the United States did not, as the Clinton administration insists, win the right to use force automatically against

Saudi King Is Stable After Undergoing **Gall Bladder Surgery**

King Fahd of Saudi Arabia was in stable condition Tuesday after undergoing emergency gall bladder surgery, hos-pital officials said Tuesday.

A team of American specialists operated Monday night after the king was admitted to King Faisal Specialist Hospital in the Saudi capital, Riyadh.

In the procedure, surgeons intro-duced a tiny, endoscopic camera and long, narrow surgical instruments though small incisions in the stomach. His gall bladder was not removed, but the officials would not disclose the exact nature of the operation.

from visiting Fahd.

day said the king was to undergo hospital tests after suffering from a gall bladder infection, but gave no infor-

King Fahd had been on vacation out-

It marked the first time since Fahd suffered a stroke in 1995 that Saudi Arabia had publicly announced that the monarch was admitted to a hospital.

stone from a duct near his gall bladder in a military hospital in the Red Sea port city of Jidda.

The Associated Press
DUBAL, United Arab Emirates

The infection he suffered was subsiding and King Fahd was expected to leave the hospital soon, the officials

The medical team is monitoring the

condition of Fahd, who is in his mid-70s, they said. The hospital stopped all visits and calls and has barred relatives A royal court statement issued Mon-

mation on his condition.

side Riyadh since Feb. 28.

In May 1994, doctors removed a

Algerian President Enters Swiss Clinic

GENOLIER, Switzerland President Liamine Zeroual of Algeria has checked into a Swiss clin-

ic, officials said Tuesday. In Algiers, medical sources said the president had eye trouble. Mr. Zeroual, 57, decided on the trip on the advice of his doctors. Algerian state radio said. The clinic in the hills outside Geneva treats a range of illnesses and injuries.

Mexico Targeting Juarez Drug Cartel

MEXICO CITY - Officials have announced a drive against one of Mexico's main drug-trafficking groups — the Juarez cartel — in-cluding dozens of arrest warrants and an offer of big rewards for information leading to the capture of its ringleaders.

Authorities said they were using the powers of a new organizedcrime law to take on the group. It was headed by Amado Carrillo Fuentes until his death last summer

after plastic surgery.
Mexico's anti-drug czar, Mariano Herran Salvatti, said Monday that 76 arrest warrants had been issued and that four suspects had been arrested.

Albright in Canada

HULL, Canada - Making the first official visit to Canada in 10 years by a U.S. secretary of state, Madeleine Albright on Tursday re-affirmed Washington's call for a "strong and united Canada" - in other words, for no secession by

Mrs. Albright delivered the message in French in the Quebec town of Hull, across the river from the federal capital, Ottawa.

Although she broke no ground in U.S. policy, Canadian government officials had been hoping she would hammer home the message to separatists in French-speaking Quebec, newspapers reported. At a breakfast meeting with gov-

ernment and business leaders, Mrs. Albright said Canadian unity was "an internal Canadian issue, which Canadians will freely resolve." "The United States, as Canada's

neighbor, friend and ally, will not interfere," she said.

Trust in the Government Edges Up a Bit in U.S.

By David S. Broder Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — A new survey finds that public attitudes toward Washington have improved modestly from their low point earlier in this decade, but reports that only one-third of Americans think they can trust the government most or all of the time.

53 Hurt in France In Pileup in Fog

METZ, France - About 80 cars and trucks crashed into one another on a fog-shrouded highway in eastem France on Tuesday morning, injuring 53 people, eight of them seriously, the police said.

The thick layers of fog, combined with speeding drivers, likely caused the accident on the A31 highway between Metz and Thionville, near the German border, the police said. "The fog was like a wall," an unidentified victim on a stretcher

told the French television news channel LCI. "I suddenly saw the cars in front of me, but I couldn't do The fog also kept emergency helicopters from landing and rescuing the injured. Ambulances in-

stead took the victims to area hos-

The survey, issued Monday by the Pew Research Center for the People and the Press, found that disillusionment with political leaders is an important factor in distrust of government. A fol-low-up survey late last month to the polling done last autumn found that the current White House sex-and-perjury charges might have caused a 5-point

drop in confidence in Washington.
Andrew Kohut, who conducted the research, said it was too soon to know whether the negative effect would be lasting but speculated. "It will take more than one more Washington scandal" to change the overall picture.

Mr. Kohut said that over the last three decades, trust in government has moved up or down in tandem with public evaluations of the state of the nation whether things are getting better or

There was a general decline in both from the time of the economic recovery in 1982 through 1994 - the year the voters ended 40 years of Democratic control of the House of Representatives. But things have moved upward since then, fueled by a booming economy and a decline in crime rates and other in-

dicators of social decay.

Overall, trust in Washington increased from 21 percent in 1994 to 38 percent in late 1997, before dropping 5 points in the February follow-up poll. The earlier gains were across the board, with few significant differences between men and women or among groupings based on racial identity, age or levels of education. Democrats scored



HIGH-TECH MEETING — Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin of Russia, left, and Vice President Al Gore opening a Washington conference Tuesday aimed to speed up economic and technological cooperation.

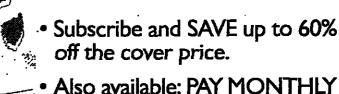
higher than Republicans or independents - 48 percent trust in 1997 - and also showed the biggest gain since

To the degree that judgments about government are made independently. two factors seem to carry equal weight: the behavior of politicians and the actual

performance of the government. Younger people base their judgment more on their view of the leaders; older people, more on the way programs deliver.

The survey contacted about 4,000 individuals - a quarter of them in the February follow-up poll and the others last October and November.

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MAKENI, Sierra Leone - With torn clothes hanging from his thin frame and wielding a rusted machete, 9-year-old Masseh Moganki says he used to wander the streets of this small West African town with packs of children, searching for victims.

When the children found one, he said, Masseh would ask: "Do you want a long-sleeved or a short-sleeved shirt?" The response determined whether the young attackers would hack off the vic-

Masseh was one of hundreds, perhaps thousands, of children kidnapped in Sierra Leone and forced into violent servitude for Sierra Leone's rebel Revolutionary United Front. Their victims - most of whom were singled out for alleged collaboration with the rebels' enemies - are commonplace sights in many towns; men and women missing

Albanian Expansion

arms, hands or legs. Now freed, Masseh is trying to rebuild his life.

Much of Sierra Leone is trying to do the same in celebration of the return Tuesday of deposed President Ahmed Tejan Kabbah to Freetown and the defeat of the rebels. But there remains an underlying fear and dread in a country devastated by military coups, insurgent

With many of its children schooled only in torture and violence, Sierra Leone's future is uncertain.

wars and rebel terrorism.

When I was taken, I had to learn to do anything they told me to," Masseh said. As if to demonstrate the fate he faced if he refused, he ran a finger across his throat.

Those that resisted, he said, were served swift, crippling and often fatal

Having taken shelter in recent weeks at the Roman Catholic-run Pastoral Center in the central town of Makeni,

Washington Past Service

BOGOTA — Colombia's voters,

Please chance to remake the nation's saidal-plagued Congress, instead ap-

Congressional elections — though Marret by guerrilla violence and ac-

Cusations of dirty money changing haids—were viewed as a crucial test of Combians' ability to "renovate" a

congress that is awash in drug money

Dozens of lawmakers have been ac-

cased of receiving payments from drug

Cartels, and 74 people who ran for Con-

gress are under investigation for crimes ranging from fraud to illicit enrichment.

according to government prosecutors.

political analysts say...

analysts said.

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone — After 10 months in exile. President Ahmed Tejan Kabbah made a triumphant return to his country on Tuesday, vowing to restore democracy and rebuild Sierra Leone, which

Arriving to greet Mr. Kabbah was the Nigerian strongman, General Sani

Masseh recently recalled his ordeal. He told his macabre story in a chillingly steady voice.

human limbs in three or four blows. His rebel guardians demonstrated on

"We were caught and trained by the boss man how to be commandos," he said. "We were drilled on how to

bloody coup last year. Last month, a

dazed as if just awakened from a nightmare — wandered into the town from the bush and nearby barracks.

For their often-brutal crimes and links to the rebels, the children are feared and loathed by their fellow villagers, Father Bongiovanni said. There are few places to turn for help.

We are not trying to tell people now that bad is good. Bad is bad, but these are children and we need to embrace

For the people of Makeni, turning the other cheek is much to ask.

and anything else they could grab. were a schoolyard game.

Taken from their parents when they Colombians Pass Up a Makeover of Congress

jority of the 102 Senate and 161 Chamber of Representatives seats remained in the hands of the traditional Liberal and Conservative parties.

Official results, based on 96 percent of returns from across the country, showed the Liberals winning more than half of the 102 sears in the Senate, according to Reuters. President Ernesto Samper, a Liberal, has been accused of taking more than \$6 million from the Cali drug cartel during his 1994 cam-

saders were elected on Sunday, the ma-

paign — an allegation he denies. Only partial results from the race for the Chamber of Representatives were available more than 24 hours after polls closed, but electoral officials said they followed the same pattern as in the Senate, with Liberals expected to best the Conservatives by more than two to one. "More than 85 percent of the Concress stays the same," said Fernando Giraldo, a political scientist at Javeriana University in Bogota. "There is no real possibility of a short-term renovation."
Representative Ingrid Betancourt, a

said many candidates received illicit financing, making it difficult, if not impossible, for Colombians to elect a majority of clean lawmakers.

election officials reported.

tim's arm at the wrist or at the elbow. Abacha, whose army led the effort to

When first abducted as a 4-year-old. Masseh was ordered to cook and clean for his gunmen captors. Before long, he said, he grew strong enough to wield a machete and was taught how to cut off

live victims how to gouge out eyes and slit throats, he said.

And to maim. A hospital south of here at one point had 46 victims who had lost limbs to the packs of children. Mr. Kabbah was overthrown in a

West African coalition army fighting to restore democracy in Sierra Leone began driving the rebels from many towns and villages.
When the Nigerian-led army captured the central town of Makeni last week, hundreds of child warriors -

were just 4 or 5, most of the children have no recollection of their families or hometowns, said the Reverend Victor Bongiovanni, an Italian missionary who helps the children through his Makeni Child Protection Project.

"They were taught how to ambush, how to pull out eyes and kill," he said.

Masseh and more than 290 children kidnapped and trained by one rebel battalion were unleashed on the town for

worked in packs, invoking terror as if it

"What we can never forget is that these children have been victims themselves," Father Bongiovanni said. These are the first victims of Sierra

months to set homes ablaze and steal food Scurrying through the streets, they

vocal critic of government corruption who easily won a Senate seat Sunday,

Turnout was about 45 percent, with at least 9 million voters defying threats of violence by Marxist rebel groups bent on sabotaging the elections. Turnout was lowest in rural areas under rebel control, where guerrillas imposed a travel ban that paralyzed transportation,

The Child Terrorists of Sierra Leone The Associated Press President Returns to Freetown From Exile The Associated Press overthrow Sierra Leone's military junta and clear the way for the president's return. The president touched down at Lungi International Airport outside

the capital, Freetown. "We will make this a new beginning," Mr. Kabbah said at the airport. "We will make this has been ravaged by civil war. a new beginning for Sierra Leone."

Mr. Kabbah had been in exile in

Japan Makes Excuses

So many people are bearing up on Japan's policymakers these days that policymakers these days that make future fiscal soundness its priyou might almost be tempted to feel sorry for them. Don't. In its refusal to bear a fair share of the burden of relieving Asia's economic crisis, Japan's government is shirking its responsi-bility. The criticism is deserved — and, what is more unfortunate, it may be the only thing that can budge Japan's political system in the right direction over time, although even that is far

The most recent piling on came from Alan Greenspan, the Federal Reserve chairman, who told Congress that Japan is not doing enough. At a meeting in Britain last month, top officials from the world's most prosperous economies, the so-called Group of Seven nations, bluntly demanded more action from Tokyo. U.S. Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin and Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky have both weighed in Officials from Asia and Europe have echoed their calls.

Japanese policymakers complain in response that Japan is not given enough credit for the size of loans it made available to Thailand, Indonesia and other Asian nations in distress. They have asserted that they understand the problem and have responded. but their critics won't give their remedies time to work. At other times they admit that their remedies are inadequate but claim they can't afford better. "It is not that we are unwilling but that anything of a magnitude enough to change the course of events may be beyond our means for some time to come," Kiichi Miyazawa, an influential elder of the ruling party, told The New York Times.

This latest explanation is the most preposterous. Japan may choose not to stimulate its economy, but it should not pretend that this is anything but a choice. Japan is a wealthy country with the "means" to redirect its

ority -- and if that causes harm in Southeast Asia and sends the U.S.-Japanese trade deficit soaring, so be it. The irony, though, is that Japan's cur-rent choices probably do as much damage to Japan's fiscal health and its economy as to the rest of the world.

Much of Asia is sinking into depression. Countries such as Thailand need healthy markets to sell to if their economies are to prosper. The open U.S. economy provides one such market, and Japan should offer another. But because Japan is in a recession of its own, it cannot. This recession is government-induced — specifically, the result of a tax increase imposed last spring against the advice of virtually everyone outside Japan's ruling party and Finance Ministry. Now the govemment has offered a meager, onetime tax cut that is not enough to undo the damage or get Japan's economy

Even more than fiscal stimulus, Japan needs to open and deregulate its economy, something its politicians repeatedly promise but do not deliver. To sweep away bureaucratic controls and make room for foreign investment and domestic entrepreneurship would kick-start the economy, benefiting Japan's partners and citizens alike. But after some fits and starts of political reform, Japan seems to have reverted to a system in which a faction-ridden ruling party faces a weak and splintered opposition.

With no political force strong enough to challenge the iron triangle of bureaucrats, ruling party politicians and special interests in business, it is left to outsiders to complain, while government officials make excuses. The resulting imbalances are bound to strain the critical U.S.-Japanese friendship.

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

Let's Hear Chung

Among the high rollers and influence peddlers involved in the dark side of Democratic Party fund-raising during the mid-1990s, Johnny Chung is a fairly small fry, But Mr. Chung, who has now agreed to plead guilty to violating the federal campaign finance law is an example of a very big problem.

A struggling entrepreneur with no personal fortune, he headed no organization, belonged to no political group. Yet he donated nearly \$400,000 to the Democratic Party and made about 50 trips to the White House before people began to ask serious questions about where he was getting tion campaign. Tickets to the event in giving it.

Mr. Chung was described by one former White House official as a political "groupie" who was permitted to hang around outside Hillary Clinton's office, staring at the first lady's picture. However, the key to Mr. Chung's access was clearly not his devotion to Mrs. Clinton, but eagerness to shovel money into the Democratic National Committee. His donations allowed him and his business associates access to the White House that ordinary citizens could only dream of - such as special guided tours and invitations to a holiday reception hosted by the president and first lady.

After one of these excursions, Mr. Chung made one of the most infamous gestures of the 1996 campaign, going into the office of Margaret Williams, Mrs. Clinton's chief of staff, and handing her an envelope containing a

\$50,000 check made out to the Democratic National Committee.

The most favorable possible gloss on Mr. Chung's activities is that he was using his access to the White House to impress business associates, who then invested in his enterprises. But it is unclear whether he might not also have been funneling money to the committee from richer patrons overseas.

The crimes for which Mr. Chung has been charged by the Justice Department involve just that kind of behavior, on a lower scale. They center on a 1995 fund-raiser for Bill Clinton's re-electhe money and what his motives were cost \$1,000, the maximum any one person can contribute under federal election law. Mr. Chung got an employee to recruit 20 people to write \$1,000 checks for tickets, and then reimbursed them with cash. He allegedly used a similar scheme to donate \$8,000 to the campaign of Sen-

ator John Kerry of Massachusetts. Now that Mr. Chung has agreed to cooperate with authorities, the country may learn more about where his money came from, and what motives he and

his associates had in giving it.
The Democratic National Committee returned his donations last year. Even before the election, committee officials and perhaps even the president himself were attempting to distance themselves from his operations. But those concerns should have cropped up several dozen White House visits earlier.

-THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Other Comment

Bomb the Serbs

It is probably going to take a degree of military force to stop Mr. Milosevic using tanks, artillery and helicopters against the ethnic Albanian population of Kosovo, just as it took NATO air strikes to help bring an end to the war in Bosnia and prepare the way for the Dayton peace accords.

Unfortunately, the U.S. secretary of state, Madeleine Albright, appears to have backed away from the threat of military action, confining herself to moral denunciations of Serb conduct. The omission is sure to be noted in Belgrade, where it is well understood that American military and diplomatic power is what really counts.

The international community will have no excuses if it allows Mr. Mi-

losevic to ravage Kosovo. After the atrocities of Vukovar and Srebrenica, we know exactly what the Serb forces are capable of doing.

The Albanians have shown heroic self-control under the leadership of Ibrahim Rugova. Encouraged by the European Union, they have resisted the call to arms on the understanding that forbearance would be rewarded in the end. Instead, they were forgotten at the Dayton accords, abandoned to fend for themselves against the Milosevic regime. If the civic opposition has now been pushed aside by the hard men in the Kosovo Liberation Army, it is partly our fault. At the very least, we have an obligation to use our air power against tanks and artillery to protect the civilian population from being massacred.

— The Daily Telegraph (London).

Herald Cribune

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Righteous U.S. Hypocrisy Does Kosovo No Good

NEW YORK — "We are not going to stand by and watch the Serbian authorities do in Kosovo what they can no longer get away with doing in Bosnia." Secretary of State Madeleine Albright warned after Serbian police and paramilitary units killed scores of men, women and children in what Serbia portrays as a war on terrorism.

Mrs. Albright's warning sounds stern, but how serious is she? It is far easier to be the world's conscience than to be the world's policeman.

The United States and several allies agreed on Monday to impose mild economic sanctions on Yugoslavia. But if the violence continues, will the Clinton administration rightly insist on stiffer sanctions? Will it resort to military measures?

What does Mrs. Albright mean when she says the United States is "not going to stand by"? Does the administration plan to litter Belgrade once more with Security Council resolutions? Most likely, she hopes that Kosovo will quiet that the state of the standard of the state of the standard of the standar down, averting the need for hard de-cisions, but she may not be so lucky.

She should keep in mind a lesson from Bosnia. At the outsets, it may be better to tell the truth than say the right By Peter Maass

thing. The strong expression of moral outrage, without an accompanying will to do anything of substance, can be worse than useless. It can be harmful.

The expression of outrage has many effects. It reassures the American public, which wants to hear the White House say the right thing (although not

Needless to say, the expression of outrage in Washington no longer carries much weight in the Balkans.

necessarily do the right thing, if that means risking American lives). Outrage puts the perpetrator, in this

case President Slobodan Milosevic of Yugoslavia, on notice that he will be punished unless he changes his ways. Lastly, the expression of outrage gives hope to victims by letting them

know that the world's superpower never ruled out military intervention, may come to their rescue. This is what notably air strikes. The prospect of can be harmful.

When the former Yugoslavia was falling apart in 1991 and 1992, the Bush administration made clear, in the memorable words of James Baker, then secretary of state, that it had "no dog in that fight." Mr. Baker was wrong about that — the stability of Europe and NATO was at stake - but at least he was honest. The independenceminded governments in Croatia and Bosnia knew that they would not get much help from the Bush crowd.

But Bill Clinton, running for pres-ident at the time, called for strong action against the Serbs. Once he took office, the moral posturing became fiercer, although action was not forth-coming until 1995, when the Dayton accord was imposed and troops were dispatched to Bosnia. In the interim,

Bosnians died by the thousands. Throughout the war, Bosnia's desperate government hoped for military support from the United States, or at least the lifting of a crippling arms embargo. Salvation seemed possible because the Clinton administration never ceased expressing its outrage and

American rescue was not the sole or main reason Bosnians fought and died, but it played a role.

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Needless to say, the expression of outrage in Washington no longer carries much weight in the Balkans. Mr. Milosevic knows not to take the Clinton administration's warnings seriously. And Kosovo's Albanians are well aware of their geopolitical quandary. They reside within the internationally recognized borders of Yugoslavia. They know better than to expect the administration's actions to be consistent with its oratory.

But hope springs eternal. If the administration has no intention of truly standing up to Mr. Milosevic, its moral posturing should be accom-panied by an honest assessment of the actions it will not take. Mrs. Albright, who knows the lessons of Bosnia, should not begin another process of conscientious hypocrisy.

The writer, author of "Love Thy Neighbor: A Story of War," a chronicle of the war in Bosnia, contributed this comment to The New York Times.

While the villagers voted in a barren, mud brick schoolhouse

in the middle of a comfield, I

did exit polling. One villager in

a green anny jacket growled: "They are making government

smaller in Beijing. They must

wouldn't have to pay so many

As the votes were counted on

fees for the village payroll."

A Vote in China: Weighing Down-to-Earth Promises

By Thomas L. Friedman hear the two candidates for village chief deliver campaign

Hongling. Here is an excerpt:

"Villagers, how are you? Let

me remind you, I am 47 years

old, a member of the Commu-

nist Party with a junior high school education. I want to do

something good for the village.

As you know, I helped this vil-

lage recover from the Cultural

sweat. I visit everyone's homes.

I get ideas from you. I have

never used the village's money

to host a banquet. I have tried to

elementary school and raise our

incomes. If elected, I vow to get

our vegetables to the township

"I promise to improve our

handle everything legally.

"Everywhere you can see my

Revolution.

GUJIAZLING, China — Village elections began in China in 1988, a decade after Deng Xiaoping decided to abolspeeches. This is a dirt-poor village. The joke is that people from here go to North Korea ish the failing system of communal agriculture and to give peasant farmers control over plots of land. for vacation. It was a time of turmoil in the The first to speak was the

countryside, and the Communist authorities in Beijing, keenly aware that all revolutions in China began in the countryside, thought that letting villagers elect their own administrators, instead of having them appointed by the party, would be a way of both letting off steam and improving village

Whether these elections really contribute to democratization in China is debated by experts. But what is clear is that they tell you a lot about what China's 900 million peasants are thinking.

Virtually all the adults in the village of Gujiazling, in the northeast corner of China, were gathered in the schoolyard to more quickly. I will also im- your money. I won't take any march together.

prove the spirit of the village. We need more trees, and a fiberontic cable so everyone can have a telephone.

"Under the leadership of the party, I will correct all my shortcomings. This is my contract incumbent village chief, Li with you." After polite applause, his

> dium. He went right for the gender vote: "First let me say that tomorrow is women's day and I want to express my congratulations

challenger, Lin Fu, took the po-

to all the women. "I am 51, with a junior high education. I am not a Communist Party member. I own my own bean curd business. I love this village. I love you all. Your poverty is my shame. I promise to reduce gambling and pornography in the village and create more channels for making

"I won't be arrogant. I will reduce the village budget to save

bribes, and even if my superior comes from the city, I won't take him for a banquet. We have too many official banquets. I have not been to a banquet or drunk one drop of alcohol in 10 years. I will guard the money of the masses. No cadres from the do that here, too. Then we village will be allowed to travel on village money.

"I will bring technology here. I will give everyone the technology for making bean curd. I will drill more wells. The Cultural Revolution wasted 10 years of our lives. We have to running tally. think now of better ways to prosper. I will be very pragmatic. As Deng Xiaoping said: 'Black cat, white cat, it doesn't matter. All that matters is that it

are ignorant, you cannot build a socialist economy. "And I will take care of all the bachelors here, who do not have the income to find a wife.

a schoolroom chalkboard, villagers took turns pressing their faces up against the windows of the counting room to watch the Meanwhile, the Communist Party boss for the village, still the ultimate power, sat in an Audi sedan watching the villagers intently watching the

catches mice.' "I will improve our school. Knowledge is important. If you

In the end, the incumbent won, 864 to 655. We asked the winner if one day he would like to be the first democratically elected president of China. He demurred. "I can only think of I will make you rich! Let's serving my small village."

thinking?

vote-counting. What was he

Ethnic Tension: Puzzles for Malaysia and Indonesia

Malaysia is being forced to reappraise aspects of the proindigenous policy it has made a key part of the national agenda since anti-Chinese riots in 1969. But Indonesia, whatever the outcome of the current economic crisis, is likely to move closer to introducing such a policy.

Indonesia at present favors indigenous business, and discriminates against people of Chinese origin in official employment. But it has no formal policy or specific goals for increasing indigenous ownership of the modern economy, or for reducing income inequality. It now fears the social and political consequences of not having done enough to address imbalances while the economy was

Malaysia, having earned the benefits of its policy in terms of social harmony, is learning the heavy economic costs. There are fundamental rea-

sons why Indonesia and Malaysia have diverged on this issue. In Malaysia, Chinese are more

than 30 percent of the population. Malaysian politics has always been ethnically based, and the groups are clearly defined. Malays are also all Muslim. In Indonesia, Chinese are only about 5 percent of the pop-

ulation and politically of no consequence. Politics has been dominated by the need to hold a vast and diverse country together. A significant minority of indigenous people are Hindus or Christians, and Islam has many strands. Policy has been to emphasize what unites Indonesians rather than single out a minority for attention.

By Philip Bowring

However, for the first time economic issues are now at the center of Indonesian politics. Prosperity brought creeping awareness of disparities -Chinese domination of the modem economy, and also the concentration of indigenous wealth in the hands of a few people close to the regime. Middleclass indigenous dissatisfaction is turning to outright hostility as hopes of future prosperity are

seemingly dashed. Indonesia cannot repeat what Malaysia did. It does not have the money, or the bureaucratic machinery capable of carrying ont such a policy. And there is a danger that a formal pro-indigenous policy would cause yet more capital flight.

Still, most Indonesian Chinese — that is, all but the ex-

eign passports — may feel that it would be better to accept some loss of wealth as a price of social stability. A formal system might anyway be better than the current one in which squeezing the Chinese is arbitrary.

Malaysia, meanwhile, is reaping the problems of appar-

The first phases of its proindigenous policy were based on using large amounts of government money (much of it from new oil wealth) to promote education and acquire corporate assets on behalf of Malays, and on quota systems in employment and ownership. The past decade has seen

much less emphasis on these routes. Instead the government has used privatization and Malay control of banks to create a small but very rich new class of Malay entrepreneurs who now dominate much of the corporate sector. They got therethrough favored access to acquisition of public enterprises, government contracts and utility franchises, and financed their instant empires with readily available bank loans.

Many of these new groups and the banks which financed them — are facing immense strains as a result of the fall of the stock market, the depreciation of the currency and property excesses. Some will collapse. Some will survive thanks to further dollops of official largesse from the banks or gov-

tremely rich or those with for- such as the state oil company or the national provident fund. Others, however, will have to

> eign capital. Loss of indigenous control may be the only way some companies can survive. Malaysia faces a real dilemma. It has shown that eth-

nically based redistribution can work well in reducing social tensions while not turning minorities against the nation. It has shown, too, that economic growth and redistribution are not incompatible. But it has yet to show how to create a big business class that can stand on

Official support for the new elite would come at the expense both of non-indigenous business and, more importantly, of the saving and taxpaying Malay

majority. How to promote both ethnic equality and national cohesion is a difficult question. Economic crisis will force change in the approaches of both countries. Foreigners would do better to understand the dilemmas than to focus on alleged "racism" of

majorities and governments. International Herald Tribune.

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ernment-controlled cash cows

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1898: U.K. Sympathy NEW YORK - Since the

Maine disaster there have been many evidences of British sympathy with the United States. The visit of Sir Julian Pauncefote to the President is of peculiar significance. Diligent inquiry as to the object of this visit develops the fact that Queen Victoria has, through the British Ambassador, conveyed to President McKinley her gratification at the wise course which he has thus far pursued in relation to the Cuban and Spanish situation.

1923: Paper Indicted

PARIS - The French Communist organ, "L'Humanité," has been indicted in the person of its gérant for libelling the French Army in its articles on the occupation of the Ruhr. M. Maginot, Minister of War, laid a complaint with the judicial

theses articles "tend to under-mine the confidence of the country, to sap the morale of our troops and to encourage the resistance of the populations of the Sarre and the Ruhr.'

1948: Masaryk Dies PRAGUE - Jan Masaryk, For-

eign Minister of Czechoslovakia, committed suicide by plunging to death from the Foreign Ministry. The death of the sixty-one-year old son of Czechoslovakia's President-Liberator. Tomas Masaryk, stunned a nation still in the grip of the paralysis that seized it during last month's crisis when the Communists took control of the country. Government announcements attributed the cause of suicide to a combination of insomnia, concern over a recent illness and attacks "in the Western press" on Mr. Masaryk for his participation in the Communistauthorities on the ground that dominated government.

Why UN Dues Aren't Optional NEW YORK — A top pri-ority for the Clinton ad By Richard N. Gardner failed to apply that sanction to the Soviet Union when it be-

ministration is to persuade Congress to pay more than \$1 billion in back dues to the United Nations. Failure to do so would undermine critical UN operations in peacekeeping and development and fur-ther diminish U.S. influence in the world organization.

Complicating the administration's task is a new and fallacious idea, accepted by many members of Congress, that America has no legal obligation to pay its UN debts. Last fall the Senate Foreign

Relations Committee declared that the UN Charter "in no way creates a 'legal obliga-tion' "on the U.S. Congress to provide the money to pay the dues. In justification, the committee wrote: "The United States Constitution places the authority to tax United States citizens and to authorize and appropriate those funds solely in the power of the United States Congress.

Those statements reflect a dangerous misunderstanding of the relation between international and domestic law.

The UN Charter is a treaty that legally binds every UN member. Of course, a treaty cannot override the U.S. Constitution; Congress is free as a matter of domestic law to violate U.S. obligations under international law.

But these truisms do not

ercises its constitutional right to violate a treaty, America still has a legal obligation to other countries, and refusal to live up to U.S. commitments can have legal consequences. There is no international police force to enforce international law, but nations gener-

ally observe treaty obligations because of a desire for reciprocity and fear of reprisal. In 1961, when the Soviet Union refused to pay its assessments for the Congo and Middle East peacekeeping operations. Republican and Democratic members of Congress insisted that the United States go to the World Court

to get an advisory opinion that the Soviet Union had a legal obligation to pay. The U.S. brief to the court. in whose preparation I had a part stated: "The General Assembly's adoption and apportionment of the organization's expenses create a binding legal obligation on the part of the member states to pay their assessed shares." In 1962, the court agreed with that propos-

sembly accepted it. Article 19 of the UN Charter provides that a country in arrears of its assessments by two full years shall lose its vote in the General Assembly. The assembly, in an unformalter the facts: If Congress ex- nate failure of political will, Los Angeles Times.

ition, and the General As-

came applicable in 1964. Nevertheless, the assembly recently has regularly applied the loss-of-vote sanction. We are not just dealing here

with legal technicalities, but with realpolitik in the best sense of the word. If nations were free to treat their UN assessments as voluntary, the financial basis of the organization would quickly dissolve.

Some Americans would not mind it if the United Nations' financial support unraveled. They do not seem fully to appreciate how important the United Nations' work in conflict resolution, peacekeeping, sustainable development, humanitarian relief and human rights can be for America. If the United States has no

legal obligation to live up to its treaties and other international agreements, neither do other countries. Then, any country would be free to violate any legal commitment it has made to America, whether to open its domestic market, reduce its nuclear arsenal, provide basing for U.S. ships and aircraft, extradite or prosecute terrorists or refrain from poisoning the global environment.

The writer, a former U.S. ambassador to Italy and Spain, is a professor of law at Columbia University. He contributed this comment to the

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look to local Chinese and for-GENERAL

its own feet in difficult times.

Letters intended for publi-cation should be addressed

OPINION/LETTERS

ovo No Good

Earth Promise

Five Candidates in Search Of a Political Purpose

By Richard Cohen

WASHINGTON -- My col-VV league David Broder attended the Southern Republican Leadership Conference recently and came away distinctly unimpressed with the current crop of presidential aspirants.

But I, unlike Mr. Broder, am in absolute awe of these presidential candidates. These guys can run on

Take (as Henny Youngman used to say about his wife) Lamar Alexander — please. There he was, most definitely listed by Mr. Broder as attending the Biloxi, Mississippi, meetings and, it seems, once again a presidential candidate. My question is a simple one: Why? Where in this vast land are the thousands, even dozens, of people clamoring for yet another Alexander presidential campaign?

The last one, you will recall, advanced the proposition that anyone who wore a plaid shirt was, somehow, closer to the

people. Never mind that in Mr. Alexander's case he was a millionaire who amassed his fortune largely through his political connections (he was governor of Tennessee) and whose message amounted to a broadside against all things Washington, including a suggestion that Congress shorten its session and simply go home. Mr. Alexander was called many things, but

thoughtful was not one of them. Now, though, he is at it again and I give him pride of place in this little essay because his candidacy says something about this fair land and its politics.

I could just as easily mention some of the other candidates -Jack Kemp, say. or Steve Forbes, Pat Buchanan and Dan Quayle. They, too, are once again considering whether to satisfy the cravings of almost nobody that they seek the highest office in the

What's remarkable about these men is that they have somehow settled into a permanent presidential candidacy. Mr. Quayle was once the vice president of the United States, no big deal actually, and before that a senator from Indiana. In neither office did he make much of a mark — we have to be honest here — and since then has not been elected to anything. If the job of a politician

is, at least on occasion, to hold a political office, Mr. Quayle can be said to be unemployed. Get the man a job.

The same is true of Mr. Alexander and Mr. Kemp. Mr. Alexander, though, is distinguished by having lost the last time around not well, mind you, but solidly. By March 6, 1996, the day he dropped out of the race, he had been beaten in 14 primaries. Mr. Forbes at least had won two (Arizona and Delaware), while Mr. Buchanan triumphed in New Hampshire.

We are all taught to admire perseverance. But enough, really, is enough. Mr. Forbes can say he has an idea (the flat tax) and Mr. Buchanan does have a constituency, but neither has been important enough to win. What's more, neither man has ever held an elected office or, if you will, high military rank.

That much could be said for most of the rest of the putative field, Elizabeth Dole included.

There are so many primaries and so fragmented an electorate nowadays that the race is not to the politically swiftest, but to the guy who keeps showing up. Jimmy Carter proved that in 1976. Up to his presidential candidacy, only four people outside Georgia had ever heard of him. I looked For Mr. Carter, the lack of a real

constituency proved disastrous. But at least his presidential campaign followed his tenure as governor. Not so the current crop. If, as Mr. Broder wrote, their speeches sound stale and irrelevant, could it be because they are drawing on outdated experiences? They ought to try holding public office. Maybe then, when they talk about the public, they'll sound more convincing.

It's not that these are bad men. Mr. Alexander can be thoughtful, and Mr. Kemp is a grand guy with a distinctly non-Republican concern for the underprivileged. Mr. Quayle, too, has good qualities and he makes a nice appearance. But what distinguishes this group - and others I fear are hearing The Voice - is, alas, almost nothing but their ambition and, it seems, a determination to avoid any office but the presidency.

Their reach exceeds my gasp. The Washington Post.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Meddling in Armenia

Regarding "Depressed Ar-menia Wonders If Victory Was Worth It" (March 5):

The recent history of Armenia demonstrates that when America interferes in the local affairs of other nations, chaos results.

The political situation in Armenia can be traced back to the unqualified American support for the hard-line Azerbaijani-Turkish position in the war over the Nagorno-Karabakh enclave of ethnic Armenians. That, in turn, encouraged Armenian hard-liners and left former President Levon Ter-Petrossian, who had backed compromise, with few supporters, leading to his ouster.

As it is, a hard-liner is going to win the presidency of Armenia, and there will be no peace with Azerbaijan. With no peace, the Azerbaijani oil pipeline that the United States is so eager to have built will face a big obstacle: Arwill see the pipeline as a tempting ANDREW KEVORKIAN. London.

American Racism

Regarding "Though Racism Persists, Progress Is Undeniable" (Meanwhile, March 3), by Wil-

liam Raspberry:
Mr. Raspberry's observation that many Americans feel "nothing's changed" in race relations reminds me of a theory I ran across in graduate school that when an organization's original goal is achieved it seldom if ever goes out of business. Instead, the emptation is to redefine the goal, i.e., find something else to do.

If one adds to Mr. Raspberry's Durkheim/Moynihan notion of "defining deviancy down" to include this bureaucratic drive of civil rights organizations to stay in business even when their business

THE INTERMARKET

menian hard-line fanatics who has largely been achieved, we have a near perfect explanation of why no one is permitted to be satisfied with the remarkable, if not yet complete, progress that has been made in American race

DAVID TIMMINS.

Turkey and the EU

Regarding "EU Reopens File on Turkish Ties" (March 5): This article suggests that EU leaders rejected outright Ankara's application for membership at the Luxembourg meeting in December. This is not the case. The EU explicitly recognized that Turkey should be a part of the enlargement process and that work to this end needs to get under way.

OZDEM SANBERK

The writer is Turkey's ambas-

A Not-So-Small Change In Britain's Monarchy

By Ben Pimlott

ONDON - The recent an- 1936, when his brother, George Louncement here of a government measure to give princesses the same rights of succession to the throne as princes has caused few waves.

Yet its implications may be immeasurable.

At present, the eldest son of the

monarch succeeds the moment the **MEANWHILE**

monarch draws his or her last breath. Daughters succeed only in the absence of sons. The new legislation calls for the succession to go to the eldest child, regardless of

The proposed reform looks like a natural expression of the belief in equal opportunity espoused by Tony Blair's government. It also suggests that Buckingham Palace is developing a more modern out-

Certainly, Queen Elizabeth seems to be accepting the proposed change with remarkable equanimity. According to the government announcement, she has "raised no objection."

She herself has nothing to worry about: her eldest child (Charles) is male, and so is his

eldest child (William). The succession time bomb may not explode until late in the 21st

century and then - assuming no in utero interference — the chances of a female succession will be only 50-50.

On the surface this may seem the gentlest of revolutions. But by seeking to rationalize an irrational principle, the change actually undermines the principle of succession in a fundamental way. For while the "first son" version of primogeniture had no justification apart from its antiquity, the "first

child" one lacks even that. In Anglo-Saxon and Norman times, the succession was sometimes disputed among royal children, not on a "first son" but a 'fiercest son in battle" principle. If you do away with "first son." why not allocate the throne to the "most suitable," rather than the no less irrational "first child"?

Why not, indeed, abandon the royal charade altogether and go for an elected head of state?

Such questions were raised at the time of the abdication of the queen's uncle, Edward VIII. in

VI, who was next in line for the throne, seemed ill-equipped to succeed him.
In the United States, newspa-

pers described George as the "stuttering Duke of York." In Britain, there was talk of passing him over in favor of an even younger brother, the Duke of Kent — but nothing came of it, because of the "next male" rule. Tinkering with that rule may well place a question mark over any future

uccession. But there could also be a wider repercussion. For the monarchy is not the only hereditary institution that follows the "eldest son"

principle. So does the peerage.

The voting rights of "hereditaries" will shortly be abolished in the House of Lords. But hereditary lords will continue to guard

The end of primogeniture.

their titles jealously, along with the stately homes and rolling acres that often come with them.

The royal change raises the in-teresting question of whether the "first child" rule should apply to peers as well as to monarchs. The prospect is enough to give many an earl apoplexy.

Such a reform would play havoc with the seignorial assumptions of the aristocracy, and the shock to a geriatric stratum of the British class system might even prove fatal.

According to chaos theory, the beating of a butterfly's wings can cause a dust storm. An apparently minor constitutional reform, imperceptible in its immediate effects, may provide an illustration of this doctrine.

The writer, the author of "The Queen: A Biography of Elizabeth II," contributed this comment to The New York Times.

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Rediscovering a 'Lost' Williams?

National Brings 'Nightingales' Back From the Dead

By Sheridan Morley International Herald Tribune

ONDON — In an entirely understandable desire to sell as many advance tickets as possible, London theaters are beginning to operate a "Year Zero" policy that would have been the envy of Pol Pot him-

Virtually any show that has not had a major West End re-vival in the last 20 years or so is routinely hailed as an "amazing rediscovery," with seldom any reference to any earlier rediscoverers: theatrical his-

tory is simply ceasing to exist. Thus at the Almeida, Pirandello's "Naked" gives no program or other credit to the pioneering work done on the play here by Diane Cilento at the Royal Court in a much more Pirandello-hostile climate of the 1950s. And at the Lyric Hammersmith, Terence Rattigan's "Cause Célèbre," in an equally admirable new

production, is treated by its publicity as though it had lain dormant in Rattigan's trunk since his death, instead of being given many and varied other revivals on stage and screen these last 20 years.

Worse still, at the National Theatre we now have Corin Redgrave solemnly announcing to an all too trusting advance showbiz press that Tennessee Williams's "Not About Nightin-gales" (1938) has hitherto been known only to scholars," which is wildly untrue and detracts from a very real achievement.

It was indeed Redgrave's sister Vanessa who, through her friendship with Williams's late executor, Maria St. Just, located the only typescript of the play. and what Trevor Nunn is now

staging spectacularly at the Cottesloe is assuredly a world premiere of tremendous importance. But all seven of the Williams biographies and studies on my shelf - some going back to the early 1970s and many by no means very scholarly — deal in detail with the play: how and when Williams wrote it, and why it was never staged at the time. It is also unfortunate that, in an otherwise superb cast of 30, Corin Redgrave as the prison governor gives the only disappointing performancelacking the sinister authority the role demands.

Christopher Bigsby, the East Anglian professor who from time to time inad-



Lee (rear) and Sandra Dickinson in "Nightingales."

vertently gives us the impression that he has personally invented both Williams and Arthur Miller, tells us in a pre-emptive program review that "Not About Nightingales" is "not a work of subtlety" and that its main character is "denied access to a redemptive love." And yet this is precisely what Canary Jim does get from his that it lies at the heart of this ostensibly comy and creaky prison drama.

In fact, of course, it was all too true; Williams based his play on a real-life prison riot that had occurred some months earlier, after a group of convicts were burned alive while locked in an oven-hot detention room. But at the time of writing,

Williams seems to have been watching a lot of Cagney and Bogart movies; his play is shot through with all the clichés of Warner Brothers B pictures, until in one amazing scene between doomed lovers we move abruptly into the realm of writing he was so soon to make his own, the high poetry contrasted with low expectations of survival.

The reason for nonproduction at the time was simply that the semi-amateur theater group in St. Louis, The Mummers, for whom Williams had been writing it, went out of business before he could deliver a final manuscript. He then moved on to other work, the

passion for the prison governor's shy secretary. As for the subtlety, it seems to me

Williams well able, had he so chosen, to challenge such contemporaries as Ben Hecht and Clifford Odets with documentary realism. In a vintage cast on Richard Hoover's brilliant traverse set, Finbar Lynch as Canary Jim and Sherri Parker Lee as his Eva lead a powerful cast in the first real and total triumph of the Nuon National.

> couple of shaky playwriting seasons, the good news is that Alan Ayckbourn is back to the top of his form with "Things We Do for Love." His 52d play in 40 years is a

At the Gielgud, after a

more prestigious Group Theatre in New York turned

it down and the author

seemed at that point to lose all interest in getting it staged.

This is, after all, an amaz-

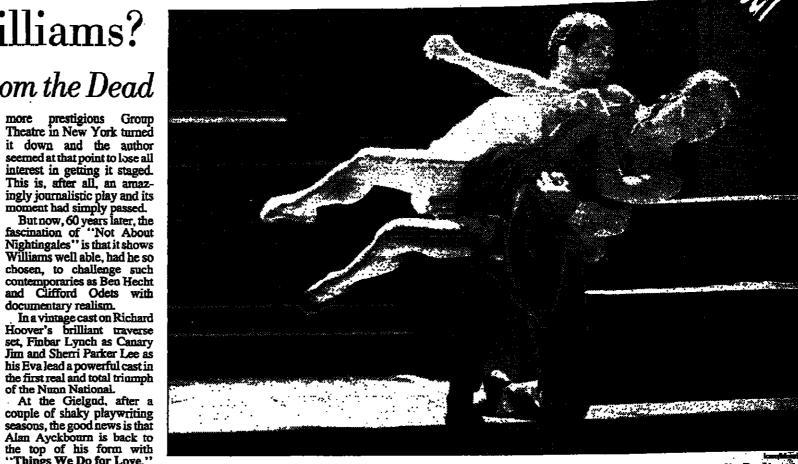
wondrous mix of domestic comedy and sexual tragedy, the two empires of which he has always been the

master contemporary playwright. Nobody can turn tears to laughter faster, and by the same token no other dramatist freezes the grin on your face quite so effectively within seconds.

So what do we have here? Three levels of apartment dwellers (we see the upper lovers only by their feet, while the transvestite postman in the basement is usually only visible by the top of his eccentric head) who come crashing together in a series of disastrously overlapping relationships.

We often hear of people "bruised" by love, and Ayckbourn's courage here is to show that physical process: lovers end up with black eyes, bruised shins, limbs in agony as they inadvertently ruin each other's only chance of happiness, and seldom can the phrase "love hurts" have been better or more graphically illustrated.

And yet there are still some vintage jokes here as Ayckbourn himself directs a cast of four, with Jane Asher as the prim landlady, Serena Evans and Stephen Pacey as the upstairs lovers and Barry McCarthy as the lodger in the basement and women's dresses. The result is a Feydeau bedroom and living-room farce that veers briefly into Strindberg: a play about people who need people enough to knock them about a bit in a raw, painful



Isabelle Guerin and Wilfried Romoli in Paris production of "Casanova," choreographed by Angelin Preliocal

Casanova' Without the Sex In Paris, a Ballet Title Without a Title Role

By David Stevens

ARIS — In the early '50s, Darius Milhaud, Philippe de Roth-schild and Salvador Dali collaborated on a ballet evoking the life cycle of the vine, with erotic overtones. But when the Paris Opera's director saw Dali's designs his reaction was an immediate "Oh no! Not on this

A lot of barriers have fallen since then. Dali might have had some fun with ballet titled "Casanova," but Angelin Preliocaj, the choreographer of the work of that name now at the Palais Garnier is not trying to portray the life of the celebrated Venetian skirt-chaser, nor evoke Venice or the 18th century in any way. There is a title, but no title role.

A major hint comes early when Isabelle Guerin steps up to a microphone and, to the accompaniment of the "Blue Danube," proceeds to read a clinical list of the symptoms of various sexually transmissible diseases.

Preljocaj presents his work as an 'anatomical traversal of a person emblematic of sensuality," of one whose life swung between a constant search for sensual satisfaction and constant interruptions for nursing himself through the inevitable results.

Whether this can be done by means of dance is an open question, and certainly not proved here, despite the efforts of six principal dancers and a corps of 24 through nine scenes spread over 95 min-

The first scene (titled "Huis Clos") shows three young couples in modern dress and modern surroundings moving in Preljocaj's angular and repetitive manner, with mild suggestions of sexual byplay. Before long Thierry Leproust's sets change from this grand room to a series of enlarged X-rays of various human bodies, while Goran Vejvoda's mostly electronic and techno score is, he says, enriched by sounds picked up from clinical machinery

Scenes unfold with titles like "Car-o-logique," "Molecule Game,"

"Kama Sutra" or "Six Characters in: Search of Something Else." The cho-reography is only intermittently interesting, but it communicates little, despite getting some fine dancing from the principals - besides Guerin, they are. Nathalie Rique, Aurelie Dupont, Nic-olas Le Riche, Laurent Hilaire and Wilfried Romoli.

In the end there was much more of; Casanova to be found in the program notes than on the stage, even symbolically, in a work that is more clinical than erotic, and not convincing as an Xray of desire.

This is a little surprising from a choreographer who is not coy about exot-; icism and whose earlier work for the Paris Opera Ballet, "Le Parc," was hailed here and in New York for its evocation of 18th century love play, in an atmosphere much like "Les Liaisons Dangerenses.

At the first performance the dancers were cheered, but the choreographer was greeted less warmly. Remaining performances are March 12, 14, 14 and 18.

BOOKS

WHEN MEMORY SPEAKS: Reflections on

Autobiography By Jill Ker Conway, \$22. Knopj.

Reviewed by Francine Prose

ATELY we have been ∠crediting the memoir with almost supernormal powers. Not only can autobiographies instruct, outrage, entertain and console us, not only can they seduce parsimonious readers into parting with the cost of a hardcover book but also, it has been suggestfinally driven the stake through the heart of those decrepit old vampires, the short

story and the novel. With so much being said these days about the art of telling the truth, it's cheering to learn that a sane intelligence has applied itself to this topic. Jill Ker Conway, past president of Smith College "The Liar's Club" and Frank and herself a memoirist, au- McCourt's thor of the luminous and de- Ashes." servedly popular "The Road From Coorain" and "True explain why these books were North." has written "When written and why they are still

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em and postmodern times."

ines the spiritual autobiographies of St. Augustine and Julian of Norwich; the Confessions of Rousseau; the travel tales of Richard Burton, Mary Kingsley and Gertrude Bell; the narratives of pioneer women captured by ed, the personal narrative has hostile tribes; accounts by runaway slaves and heroic abolitionists; the life histories of feminists from Emmeline Pankhurst to Germaine Greer, of lesbians (May Sarton, Kate Millett, Audre Lorde) and of transsexuals, like Jan Morris.

"Angela's As Conway endeavors to

Memory Speaks" to help us enjoyed, we quickly begin to likely to approach their own understand our interest in the realize that a much duller mind happened to them. genre and to provide "the his- than hers could, without much tory of self-narrative in mod- effort, discern the reasons be-

hind our hunger for the facts of Addams to Katherine Harris- much like our own; others on, from Virginia Woolf to hope to be titillated or shocked Lee Iaccoca. Conway examby steamy revelations: still rate intellect, a charismatic storyteller, or a brilliant stylist. Understandably, Conway can't find much to say about the subject beyond the essentially obvious. In any case, Conway is less

engaged by questions about the appeal of memoir than by the challenge of distinguish-"archetypal life scripts" for men and for women which show remarkable persistence

pattern for life comes from

adaptations of the story of the

dieval spiritual autobiography
— with its special view of the
power balance between the dieval spiritual autobiography
and leads to, specious distinctions that only serve to confirm certain readers and critics did not permit the develop- the attention and respect that ment of the sense of agency we offer, as a matter of course, and acting on one's own be- to writing done by men. half, with which the Greek ideal of the hero is infused." Francine Prose, whose Therefore, women writers are most recent book is "Guided

life story as something that

premise of "When Memory As promised, this brief others' lives — a craving that Speaks' — an idea that Convolume offers a brisk over-necessarily differs with each way applies, with mixed suc-Speaks" — an idea that Conview of the memoir - from memoir, each reader. Some of cess, to the books under dis-Saint Teresa of Avila to Ben- us want to be encouraged or cussion. Some of these works jamin Franklin, from Jane comforted by experiences fit obligingly (and convincingly) into the model she has outlined, while other, less accommodating memoirs have others want to see a lifetime to be shoehomed in, resisting transformed into art by a first- all the way. She omits certain classics, old and new -Emma Goldman's "My Life," Frank Conroy's "Stop-Time," Hilton Als's "The Women" - that might contradict her theory. Considering the memoirs of Germaine Greer and Gloria Steinem Conway notes: "Strong feminists they may be, but it is in ing between narratives writ- relation to their fathers and ten by men and women, the mothers that they first begin to speak to the world about their

> For men, the overarching by women and men. Finally, one's response to 'When Memory Speaks' epic hero in classical antiquity. will depend on how one feels Life is an odyssey, a journey about the taxonomical urge to through many trials and tests, classify literature by sex. Of which the hero must surmount course, there's no doubt that in alone through courage, endur- many cases — especially in ance, cunning and moral the past — female experience strength." The corresponding differed drastically from male. tradition for women, she But too often the identification claims, derives from the me- of "women's writing" makes, autobiographer and her God. in their prejudiced view that "Such a tradition, involving a such works need not be taken relationship with a first cause, seriously or approached with

lives"; yet it might be argued

that the family plays a major role in many autobiographies,

less prone to take credit for Tours of Hell," wrote this for their own actions, and more The Washington Post.

PARIS FASHION A Feminist vs. Feminine Rumble

By Suzy Menkes International Herald Tribune

ARIS — The shiny silver program at Dior's show Tuesday contained one word: SPORTS-WEAR. Make that sports

As models in padded brocade jackets dripping with colored mink, or kilt skirts split open over sheer mesh, walked the New York rooftop set --- all garbage bins, television antennae and chimneys spouting fiery flames — you just knew that John Galliano's woman sees daylight only when she's stumbling home at dawn.

She is so magnificent at night in her slinky dresses or in a moonbeam silver knit tunic over a pencil-thin skirt. But even if you removed the Edwardian hat, the porcelain choker and the shocking pink stilettos, she would look pretty daft at lunch in that gaudy stuff: the Aztec patterned parka and the strapless dress wrapped into a whoosh of fabric at the

There were sportswear pieces. Sort of. Like a quilted windbreaker with smocking at the midriff. With the fur hood flopped on the shoulders, it looked like something Henry VIII might have worn before he lost his waistline. In black, above a skinny black skirt with a French beret, it had an ineffable Left Bank chic.

Maybe if the pieces had been shown in a different way and in quieter colors, rather than as what looked like a heavyhanded parody of Christian Lacroix, the collection would have seemed more wearable. But Galliano's romantic vision that is so magical for couture, seemed here too obsessed with traditional feminine characteristics — elaborate headwear, fancy footwear, adornment and accessories - to be part of the modern world.

You could read the Paris fall shows as feminine vs. feminist. For his debut collection at Hermes, Martin Margiela made a noble statement about how women can follow the great male renunciation of adornment and flamboyance.

Strolling though the Hermes flagship store, past leather saddles and silk head scarves, were women whose faces carried a light patina of age to give character to their beauty — just like their well-worn Kelly bags. They were a nice touch from a designer known for recycling flea-market finds.

The clothes were resolutely masculine, even hefty, in the vast proportions of the loose, long layers and dark, neu-tral colors: camel coats and mole-brown pantsuits; plain charcoal tunics like pull-on V-necked sweaters; long gloves meeting crop-sleeved knitwear; slouchy men's trousers; long monastic dresses.

Many were reprises of Margiela's own ocuvre, and even in luxurious fabrics, the camel hair jackets, rainproof chiffon coats and satin bindings were the antithesis of opulent.

Galliano's fur-trimmed parka.

The result was a show that was or- Margiela's coat and tunic ensemble.

ganic to Hermes rather than a publicity stant. But the edgy, angry Margiela, whose deconstructed pieces expressed the radical spirit of a post-yuppie generation, was missing.

And male tailoring for women is noth-ing new; nor is the idea of showing on 'real" women. Low-key fashion is also real" women. Low-key fashion is also:
a negation of its risks and pleasures. Let's
hope that next season, Margiela can use
his cutting skills to tackle the post-feminist predicament: how can a modernminded woman dress less like a man?

Dries Van Noten's collection of magnie pieces, shown in a figure tent entire.

pie pieces, shown in a fiery tent strung with fairy lights like a gypsy camp, found a fashion balance between masculine and feminine. Hussar jackets with embroidery on the sleeves went over light, layered dresses and ruffled skirts, or tiny shoulder-hugging kaits and adorable shearling boleros. It all suggested that Van Noten had moved from the ethnic to the Romany trail, picking up a mirrored shawl in Rajas-than, a fabric from Morocco, gathering patches of fur from ancient forests and putting their bony branches as patterns

HE collection's heart was in-Hungary, in folkloric effects and a red and black palette that freshened Van Noten's usualearthy tones. It recalled hippie days and Kenzo's traveling fashion years, but the mixed-weight and multi-textured fabrics, and the modern proportions, made

Junya Watanabe pushed the boundaries between art and fashion, with metallic circlets shaping fabric lengths to the body, over pristine cotton shirts and kilt skirts. It was as though innocent schoolgirls were experimenting with tailoring, braiding material into a dress or whorling a shirt into a rose at the breast. It was a fresh take on a de construction theme.

Other designers did their thing La cien Pellat-Finet moved his signature knits forward by introducing graphic blocks of color, Fair Isle patterns and varied textures. They included superfine fitted sweaters and chunky sloppy

joe's in 12-ply porridgy cashmere.

Collette Dinnigan's merry collection of lingerie-inspired pieces was predicated on all that is womanly and femining from the cutery via continuation. inine, from the cutesy-pie opening with a kitsch Judy Garland kid leading a line up of bloomer-clad soubrettes, through the shapely frocks that harked back to the 1950s.

It was a reminder of all the things that female fashion stood for before androg yny stamped its heavy boot,

The last word on post-feminist dres ing came from the 24-year-old Gaspard. Yurkievich, whose flirty, flying panels, saucy tails of glitter fabric, and sharply cut mixes of soft jersey with papery fabrics proved there is a place for sexy

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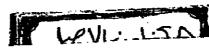
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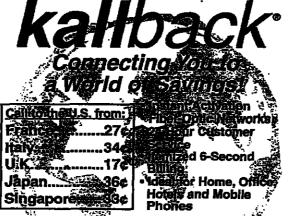
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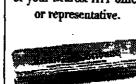
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As Asian Crisis Simmers, Tokyo Diddles on Stimulus

Liberal Democrats Hint at \$80 Billion Package

By Sheryl WuDunn New York Times Service

TOKYO - Governing party officials have been dropping hints this week that Japan might finally bow to foreign pressure and pour more than \$80 billion into reviving the economy.

The package, being cobbled together, is by no means certain, and politicians of the Liberal Democratic Party have indicated it could be as large as nearly \$160 billion or as small as \$48 billion.

Still, politicians say they hope that a stimulus could revive business confidence and give the economy the lift it needs to nudge Japan out of stagnation.

But the picture of the economic package that has emerged is sketchy, with many critics worried that the money will pork-barreling and economists saying that unless Tokyo takes giant steps to deregulate various industries as well, any long-term recovery is doubtful.

"Basically, you have to have a kind be spent on pet projects or doled out by pork-barreling and economists saying

of revolution here," said Peter Morgan, senior economist at HSBC Securities Japan Lid.

While U.S. officials and leaders of other countries have stepped up their calls for Japan to stimulate its economy, Tokyo has remained almost stubbornly resolute, offering only a trickle of measures to tinker with the economy. Even at \$80 billion, the planned package would represent only about 2 percent of Japan's annual economic output, and most of the money is likely to go to traditional-style public works rather than to tax cuts that corporations and

citizens could then use to buy or invest. Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto has apparently reached an agreement on a stimulus package with other top Liberal Democrats, according to Japanese news-papers. Party officials have been cagey about formally announcing a package while debate on the budget is still going on, and they have said that any open discussion of fiscal stimulants outside of the budget will have to wait until after the

budget is passed, probably next month. Nevertheless, Taku Yamasaki, the party's top policymaker, said on television Sunday that some of the new money would go into public projects on telecommunications, the environment and education, and it would include tax incentives for corporate investment.

The stock market, however, has shrugged off the package, with the benchmark Nikkei falling 159.44 points Monday to 16,972.53, down 159.44 points, and rising just 10.29 points Tuesday to finish at 16,982.82.

Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin and other Americans are calling for Japan to give billions of dollars in aggregated income and corporate tax cuts, and other economists have called at least for an extension of the \$15.9 billion in income tax cuts announced in December.

But Mr. Yamasaki suggested that in-come tax cuts were unlikely to expand personal consumption, and business executives are worried as well that tax rebates will be saved, rather than spent,

People are not spending money. said Kazuo Nukazawa, senior managing director at Keidanren, the leading business federation. "I advise many friends to spend in the daytime. At night, I go home and tell my wife not to spend."

Tokyo has been stubbornly sticking to a policy of fiscal austerity, partly because of a law it passed in November that commits it to reduce the budget deficit to less than 3 percent of gross domestic product by 2003. The deficit is projected to be 5.9 percent at the end of fiscal 1997, which ends March 31.

But economic growth is expected to be near zero in the same period, leading many economists to say that the economy needs more fuel, not less.

"This is not the time to be siphoning more gas out of the tank," said Robert Alan Feldman, chief economist at Morgan Stanley (Japan) Ltd. "Yes, they have a large deficit, and it's a serious, longterm problem. But if they withdraw stimulus at this time, there is a potential for a

very negative deflationary spiral."

Recent figures show that wages and wholesale prices are down slightly from a year ago, and corporate profits are projected to fall. Even the government says the economy is "still stagnating."

But Finance Ministry officials, who essentially draw up economic policy in Issantially draw up economic policy in Japan, point out that three years and 40 trillion yen (\$320.01 billion) in spending has yet to lead to recovery. So they say, why throw more good money after bad? "Our primary concern is to stop the rising debt," said Masakazu Sakaguchi, chief of the Budget Burgery's research

chief of the Budget Bureau's research division. "Our position is very strong,



Coca-Cola won a contract to blanket Keller High School in Texas with its vending machines and logos.

New Battlefield for Cola Wars: Schools

By Constance L. Hays New York Times Service

NEW YORK - The Jefferson County school district in Colorado needed a new football stadium. The Lebanon, Ohio, school district had a crumbling outdoor track. The Keller Independent School District, outside Fort Worth, Texas, wanted to make sure its value as one of the state's fastestgrowing and best-performing school systems did not go unrecognized.

So, in recent weeks, all three have signed contracts with Coca-Cola Co. or Pepsi-Cola Co. agreeing, for a price, to eliminate the competition's products from the vending machines in their hallways and from concession stands at sports events. At Jefferson, . you can buy only Pepsi; Coke rules at Lebanon and Keller.

All this spotlights the latest battleground in the cola wars: America's public schools.

Some school officials have displayed negotiating prowess worthy of a major league baseball star. One Coke school district \$8 million over 10 years if the school meets sales targets. While soft-drink giants have long

fought to be designated the official beverage of professional sports and college campuses, only recently have they turned their sights on the kinder-garten-through-high-school set. The trend, which has already touched

off an outcry in some quarters about the advance of the profit motive on publicly financed halls of learning, has snow-balled. School districts that have signed such contracts are attracted by the easy money.Beverage executives are drawn by the vision of sowing brand loyalty among thousands, and eventually millions, of impressionable young people.

"Schools are serving up exclusivity as the carrot," said Larry Jabbonsky, a spokesman for Pepsi-Cola, a division of Pensico Inc. "They need to generate funds. At the same time, we are constantly looking for new ways to broaden our exposure among young people. It's a pretty natural interdependent fit."

In general, federal law forbids the

sale of soft drinks in school lunchcontract in Colorado would net the rooms. Still, school districts derive profits from the sale of soft drinks and other products from vending machines placed on school property. In most deals, Coca-Cola and Pepsi also demand, and receive, the right to advertise with corporate logos in gyms, stadiums and other places in schools. The logos might appear on scoreboards or banners and on paper cups and vending machines.

Although advertising in schools is nothing new, exclusive contracts are a much more recent development.

Schools are an obvious target for consumer-products companies because the younger the customers they win over, the greater the profits.

Critics, though, question the wis-dom of allowing educators to transform taxpayer-financed schools into willing agents of corporate strategy.

"It raises fundamental questions of public policy, ethics and health," said Alex Molnar, a professor of education at the University of Wisconsin-Mil-

With many schools receiving mul-See COLAS, Page 17

${f VW}$ ${f Bows}$ To Concerns Of Investors

By John Schmid
International Herald Tribune

FRANKFURT - Volkswagen AG, long known for servicing auto enthusiasts ahead of its own stockholders, promised Tuesday to retool its investor relations.

The pledge came a day after the com-pany capitulated to shareholders' worries that the magnitude of a pending capital increase would dilute the value of their holdings. VW dropped a second tranche of its next rights issue Monday, effectively halving the total value of new shares it will issue to about 3 billion Deutsche marks (\$1.64 billion).

VW also said Monday that its 1997 net profit doubled, to 1.36 billion DM. By cutting the rights issue, VW put shareholders ahead of the company's eagerness to bankroll an ambitious global expansion plan meant to put it in the same league as the world's top three global carmakers, General Motors Corp., Ford Motor Co. and Toyota Mo-

tor Corp., Fold Motor Co. and Toyota Mo-tor Corp. The company's shares surged 4 percent Tuesday, to 1,325 DM. Klaus Kocks, head of communica-tions for VW, promised to keep the stock market better informed of each change in the company's strategy. "Investors were not neglected exactly," Mr. Kocks said, "but they were not as important in the past as they will be in the future."

Even with the Tuesday pledge, VW lags the leaders of the shareholder-value movement in Germany. The company still has no immediate plans to make the change that would be most meaningful to investors: junking Germany's opaque accounting system. Foreign investors complain that German balance sheets deny them an honest look at a company's health. Other blue-chip companies, notably Daimler-Benz AG, Deutsche Telekom AG and Deutsche Bank AG, already have switched over to international accounting standards.

VW's reluctance to change accounting standards, however, also makes it one of Germany's last great "engineer-driven" companies, with an overriding quest for product perfection and heady outlays for research and development. "If you have an engineer-driven company, "Mr. Kocks said, "then you have an R&D culture and the R&D culture is all about keeping secrets" from competitors.

MEDIA MARKETS

This Editor Is the Life of Time's Party

By Robin Pogrebin New York Times Service

FW YORK - For Walter Isaacson, it was perhaps the ultimate dinner party. Put Henry Kissinger at a table with Mel Brooks. Tom Cruise with Walter Cronkite. Sharon Stone with Bill Gates. Mix scientists and movie stars, politicians and authors, athletes and high-profile chief executives.

Invite every gossip columnist in town, but make the evening more than a list of bold-faced names. Make it about something: leadership in the 20th century. Then roll out the red carpet at Radio City Music Hall, throw on a tuxedo and circulate more quickly than the canapes.

So went Time Magazine's 75th-anniversary gala last week, a party that many say bore the stamp of the consummate partygoer, Mr. Isaacson, the magazine's managing editor. In the crowd of 1,200, which had even the stars starstruck, Mr. Isaacson seemed completely at ease, chatting with his table mates — President Bill Clinton, Toni Morrison and Billy Graham -

and popping up to introduce everyone.
"It had Walter written all over it," said Evan Thomas, an assistant managing editor of Newsweek and longtime friend of Mr. Isaacson. "He has a great sense of biography as history and he's great at schmoozing the powerful and famous. It's mother's milk to him."

It is in large part this combination of



Walter Isaacson, left, in the office.

high-profile style and high-minded substance that many say has made Mr. Isaacson a good fit for Time magazine since he became managing editor two years ago.
In an era when people have long

sounded the death knell for newsweeklies, revenues at Time increased 21 percent in 1997, to nearly \$94 million; ad pages 16 percent, to 2,800, and circulation 1.3 percent, to 4.2 million — prompting Adweek, the trade publication, to name Time the "Hottest

Magazine of '97'' last week.

The publication said that Mr. Isaac-

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son has restored the magazine's authority, that he has raised its profile by being a ubiquitous social and talk-show presence and that he has helped redefine the role of the newsweekly in an era when people do not need it for news.

The subjects deemed worthy of the magazine's cover still range from weighty politics to celebrities, but the ratios have changed. There were 23 covers on government and foreign af-fairs in 1987, according to a study by the Project for Excellence in Journalism; last year there were 5.

The number of celebrity covers has changed little in that time, going from seven in 1987 to eight in 1997. The most noticeable increases in covers have come in the lifestyle, science and

business categories. Mr. Isaacson "understood the role of the news magazine in providing synthesis and analysis," said Norman Pearlstine, the editor in chief of Time Inc. "He reintroduced the notion of storytelling through personality, which had been so much the Time hallmark, which I think the magazine has gotten

away from.
"And," Mr. Pearlstine added, "I think it's a real advantage to the magazine to have a managing editor who knows the people we write

Certainly Mr. Isaacson, who turns 46 in May, shares the credit for Time's current strength with his deputy man-

See TIME, Page 17

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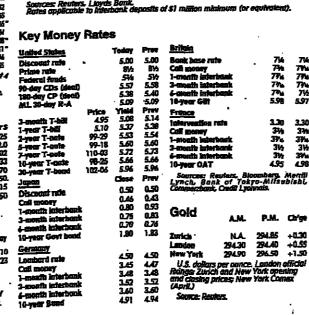
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Very briefly:

 Cypress Semiconductor Corp. and Spectrian Corp., two Silicon Valley companies, separately announced plans to lay off more than 500 workers as part of an effort to trim costs. Argentina plans to sell two new telecommunications li-censes by November 1999, ending monopolies on telephone services held by Telecom Argentina Stet-France Telecom SA and Telefonica de Argentina SA since 1990.

• H.J. Heinz Co.'s third-quarter net income rose 7.9 percent, to \$188.2 million, as cost-cutting and strong sales of ketchup offset a decline in overall sales.

 Cisco Systems Inc. will buy NetSpeed Inc. for about \$236 million in stock, bulking up Cisco's line of high-speed transmission equipment for Internet and telephone companies. •Citicorp awarded AT&T Corp. a five-year, \$750 million contract to streamline the bank's computer systems.

• Safety-Kleen Corp. agreed to negotiate with Laidlaw Environmental Services Inc., a hostile bidder for the company, after its shareholders rejected a \$1.9 billion cash offer by a group led by Philip Services Corp. AP. Bloomberg

USA Networks to Buy Ticketmaster

Bloomhere News

NEW YORK - USA Networks Inc. agreed to buy Ticketmaster Group Inc. for about \$400 million, or \$29.70 a share. debt owed to Japanese banks. in stock, after raising its bid 17 percent because of a rise in the ticketing company's shares.

In October, Barry Diller, the chairman of USA Networks, offered about \$340 million in an unsolicited bid for the half of Ticketmaster that USA Networks does not own. Ticketmaster's share price rose \$1.3125 Tuesday at \$27.6875.

Mr. Diller wants to use Ticketmaster, the nation's largest seller of tickets to events such as concerts, as a big part of his expansion into on-line shopping. USA Networks also owns the Home Shopping Network, whose large telephone ordering system will complement Ticketmaster's.

Lifts Dollar

NEW YORK - The dollar rose

against the Deutsche mark Tuesday on expectations the German economy is not growing fast enough to prompt the Bundesbank to raise interest rates in coming months.

A German government report due Wednesday is expected to show that the annual inflation rate declined from 1.3 percent in January. Central banks tend to raise rates to slow economic growth when there is a danger of rising inflation. U.S. rates on bonds and deposits are currently higher than German ones, which

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

makes dollar-denominated interestbearing instruments more attractive than mark-denominated ones.

"Germany's not going to be raising rates any time soon," said Lizbeth Goldberg of Bayerische Hypotheken -und Wechsel Bank in New York, adding that that made people "bullish on the dollar."

The dollar was quoted at 4 P.M. at 1.8292 DM, up from 1.8269 DM on Monday. The U.S. currency was little changed at 127.415 yen, compared with 127.800 yen, amid speculation Japanese companies were converting overseas profits into yen before the country's fiscal year ends March

Against other major currencies, the dollar was at 1.4890 Swiss francs, up from 1.4870 francs, and at 6.1326 French francs, up from 6.1265 francs. The pound was at i.6410, up from \$1.6388.

The dollar was also restrained against the yen amid expectations a report on Wednesday will show Japan's current-account surplus expanded in January from 1.062 trillion yen the month before.

'It does show the Japanese have been repatriating some assets," said Steve Barrow, a currency strategist at Bear Stearns International.

A rally in Southeast Asian currencies Tuesday helped the yen by fueling hopes that companies in the region will be better able to repay

Still, the dollar got some support from ebbing optimism Japan will take steps to bolster its slumping economy.

tad but I can't imagine who in the world would buy into this," said Ms. Goldberg, of Hypo Bank. "They get our expectations up and then disappoint us every dang time.

Rate Outlook Technology Rally Pushes Stocks to Record In Germany

NEW YORK — Stocks closed at

a record Tuesday on optimism that the disappointing profits of some computer-related companies would not stop the bull market.

"Long-term, tech is the place to be," said Nate Carter, president and chief investment officer of Lakefront Capital Investors in Cleveland. 'It's often been said that not being in tech at the end of this century is like not being in railroads at the end of the last century."

The Dow Jones industrial average closed 75.98 points higher at 8,643.12. The Dow previously set a record March 3 at 8,584.83. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index

rose 11.95 to 1,064.26 in a broad advance led by drug, bank, oil, con-

SAN ANTONIO, Texas -

PG&E Corp. agreed Tuesday to

manage more than \$2 billion in

natural gas and electricity pur-

chases for Ultramar Diamond

Sharnrock Corp. over the life of a

seven-vear alliance designed to cut

the oil refiner's energy costs.

PG&E will buy the electricity
and natural gas needed to run Ul-

tramar Diamond's refining and

chemical plants in the United

the consumer area, like drugs, provides that, regardless of what goes on in tech," said Bill O'Hearn, a reiterated their ratings for the maker portfolio manager at McKinley Cap-

ital Management Inc. The Nasdaq composite index, heavily laden with computer-related

shares, rose 23.35 to 1,748.51. Technology shares had plunged Monday as investors bristled at late

U.S. STOCKS

Friday's news that Compaq, the leading manufacturer of personal computers, only expects to break even for the current quarter. The warning was the third in as many days from leading names in technology.

PG&E to Manage Ultramar Diamond's Power Purchases

provide power to an Ultramar Dia-

mond refinery near San Antonio.

ating national power contracts as

Washington moves to open \$200

Robin Diedrich of Edward Jones

Ultramar Diamond said it ex-

pects the agreement to cut energy

& Co. "It's the kind of thing com-

petitive companies do."

States and Canada and will build a costs at its refineries, pipeline ter-750-megawatt electricity plant to minal and retail facilities by 15 18.75 cents.

billion in annual electricity sales to

Electric companies are negoti-

This deal is creative." said

7/16 after several analysis raised or repurchase system.

mixed. Compaq fell 1/16 to 251/s. Intel rose 7/16 to 751/2 and Dell Computer rose 2 1/16 to 65 3/16.

AT&T rose 11/4 to 63 after Citicorp awarded it a five-year, \$750 million contract to streamline the bank's computer systems.

Construction companies, which thrive in strong economies with low interest rates, also rose. Foster \$136 million contract to build a

steam generating plant in Ohio. Fluor climbed after the construction and engineering company said struction and utility shares.

"They shocked the market, but it would put its equipment leasing the market is very, very resilient, and people look for areas that have stapeople have become accustomed to use

percent to 25 percent by lowering

its costs for power and fuel and

cutting its energy consumption.
PG&E has about 4.5 million

electric customers and 3.7 million

natural gas customers in northern

gasoline to a network of North

American convenience stores and

\$31, up 62.5 cents. Ultramar Dia-

mond shares were at \$35.4375, up

PG&E shares closed Tuesday at

and central California.

service stations.

Ultramar Diamond

bility and provide predictability, and buying on dips," Mr. O'Hearn said. proceeds from the sale to buy back the consumer area, like drugs, Sun Microsystems rose 421/32 to 42 shares as part of an existing stock

Championship Auto Racing of computer hardware and software. Teams shares rose in their first day. Other computer issues were of trading on enthusiasm over the popularity of auto racing. The Tross Michigan-based racing league sold 4.7 million shares for \$16 each Monday to raise \$75.2 million.

Ritchie Brothers Auctioneers industrial equipment sold 29 million shares at \$17 a share in an initial public offering.

Pentacon rose 21/2 from an initial Wheeler rose after it was awarded a public offering at 10. The distributor of fasteners for original equipment makers sold 5.2 million shares.

Waters rose after the precision instrument maker said it signed an agreement with Eli Lilly to become Lilly's sole provider of liquid chromatography data-management software for all Lilly's late-stage development and quality assurance. laboratories. Lilly also climbed.

Bond prices were little changed. even after the Labor Department: said nonfarm productivity rose 1.6 percent in the final three months of last year, less than the previously. reported 2 percent gain. Productivity measures the time and effort of

providing goods and services. The revision was in line with expectations. Still, investors are encouraged that strong productivity gains in the past year have helped

keep inflation from accelerating. ... The benchmark 30-year Treasury bond was unchanged at 102 8/32 with the yield at 5.96 percent.

A Colorado Boom Town Just Says 'No' to Nike

The Associated Press

Nike came offering to create a new ado's director of financial and busicorporate campus and thousands of ness development. "If this project is jobs on a mesa overlooking this city. going to happen in Colorado, they the reaction was less than golden.

Residents formed an opposition group with the slogan "Just say no," and city officials said the company would have to come up with something more if it wants a warm

"Nike has good-paying jobs and good people, but there's going to have to be more in it for the comsaid Mike Bestor, city munity,'' Every time they talk about tax manager in the municipality that is cuts, the dollar seems to weaken a home to Coors beer and bills itself as the place "Where the West lives."

333 342 351'4 350 15,000 (

SUGARWORLD 11 (NCSE) 112,000 fbs.- cants per fb. Mgy 98 9.45 9.28 9 Jul 98 9.50 9.31 9 Oct 98 9.76 9.56 Mar 99 10.18 10.00 16

Things like a concert hall, shoes for schoolchildren and a couple of new soccer fields would be a nice start, he said.

"We've been up front with terstate 70 corridor that leads to the to sweeten the pot if it wants a home GOLDEN, Colorado --- When Nike," said Jaime Gomez. Colorhave to have local support."

"Yes, it's a good company, yes it has jobs paying \$50,000 a year, but the community also has to look at other issues like growth problems, infrastructure and transportation,"

Nike's proposed new facility would offer about 5,000 jobs in a campus atmosphere, with office rations, space, light manufacturing and distribution.

Nonetheless, opponents presented the city council with 1,000 signatures against the project after Nike said it favored building the complex on South Table Mountain, overlooking the gateway to the Instate's resort areas.

Residents said they did not want giant sneaker signs or the com-pany's trademark "swoosh" on Lee Weinstein, spo their landscape.

Portia Masterson, who runs a bicycle shop and helped form the Denver suburb could afford to be choosy, with an unemployment rate under 3 percent. She said the community should consider other factors when courting big corpo-

The people who are enthusiastic about this project are the people in economic development who believe the bigger the growth, the more they she said. "We don't have people scrambling for the jobs they re offering.

Mr. Bestor said Nike would have

in Golden, in addition to agreeing to keep a low profile by putting its Lee Weinstein, spokesman for

Nike, which has its headquarters in Beaverton, Oregon, said there would not be any giant sneakers on group Friends of the Mesa, said this the side of the mountain if the company decides to build in Colorado. And, he said, the company is conscientious about environmental concerns, and knows parts of Denver are congested. But he pointed out that other

states and even Canada were interested in the jobs his company is

"In British Columbia, they re excited about this," he said. "The only place there has been any contention is from a small group in Golden, Colorado.

AMEX

Tuesday's 4 P.M. Close The 300 most traded stocks of the day.

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3-MONTH PIBOR (MATIF) FF5 million - pis of 100 pc; Mar 98 94.450 94.250 94.25+ 0.001 Jun 98 94.400 94.360 94.390+ 0.001 Sep 99 94.260 94.215 94.265+ 0.001 Dec 98 94.090 94.045 94.095+ 0.000

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cks to Recon Investments With Good Nose and Rich Color "The most appreciated win

MILAN - Bored with plainvanilla bonds? Thirsty for diversification with a kicker? The rich, red Brunello bond may be just the

Some of Italy's most prestigious winemakers, eager to recover huge investment costs and generate cash flow, are turning to financial instruments like futures, bonds and warrants to raise sorely needed cap-

The Italian investment bank Mediobanca SpA is carrying out a private placement this week with Italian and foreign banks of bonds with warrants worth 15 billion lire (\$8.3 million).

The warrants allow the purchaser to acquire three different vintages of Brunello red wine from one of Italy's oldest winemakers, Piero Antinori, from 2000 to 2002. The banks are expected to offer the "Brunello bonds" to their retail cli-

ents.
"We're seeing a lot of interest from the banks, not just from Italy, but from Germany, Switzerland and Austria, 'a Mediobanca source said, adding: "The placement easily will be a success. Clearly, it's an investment product aimed more for people who appreciate wine than for speculators.

The bondholders are essentially buying a prestigious wine at wholesale prices, which can be 40 percent to 50 percent below the eventual retail price that is set three to five years after the aging process is com-

Producers are confident that prices for fine wine will continue to rise in coming years. The retail price for Brunellos, for example, has increased by half over the last seven years, industry experts say.

Mediobanca, a secretive bank better known for the web of complex corporate deals it has spun for decades, recently acquired part of Antinori's 1995-1997 Brunello production to be used for the bond

Each bond, which carries a nominal value of 1 million lire, will have three warrants attached to it and carry a 2 percent annual coupon. Each warrant carries the right to acquire a case, or six bottles, of Brunello. The minimum investment is 3 million lire.

The bonds expire in three phases. The first lot (1995 vintage Brunello) matures in September 2000, the

provide financing to the winemaker, which can recover investment costs while the wine is aging in its Tuscany cellars.

The issue of Brunello bonds comes on the heels of the issue of "Brunello futures" by other Tuscan producers.

As winemaking is a very capitalintensive business with a slow return on investment, the Tuscan winery Castello Banfi decided to issue the first futures certificates in September 1996 on 1995 vintage wine. Modeled on the en primeur sys-

tem used by French wineries, the contracts allow the investor to purchase wine when the aging process

"This instrument is a type of the next few years.

Montalcino, a Tuscan winery that is producers. owned by the Italian-American brothers John and Harry Mariani.

The winery, which aims to seek a listing on Wall Street and the Italian stock market in a few years, will issue a further 8,000 futures this month on an expected 48,000 bottles of its 1997 Brunello di Montalcino.

The contracts, which will cost 280,000 lire to 290,000 lire each, can be bought at Italian enoteche, or wine shops, and give the purchaser the right to six bottles when retail sales begin in 2002.

The certificates can be sold to other investors before maturity. There is even talk of a bourse for is completed and retail sales start. trading the certificates emerging in

"The most appreciated wines second in September 2001 (1996 vintage) and the third in September 2002 (1997 vintage).

Proceeds from the bond issue will provide financing to the winter aging director of Castello Banfi di

"The 1997 vintage was fivestar," he said of the wines' quality.
"This could give a push to new futures contracts by other produ-

In December, the consortium sold 2,000 futures contracts, at 300,000 lire each, on its 1997 vintage. The 600 million lire raised from the sale went to victims of the earthquake last year in the Umbria and Marche regions.

Piedmont producers also want to get into the act. Tenimenti di Barolo & Fontanafredda, a winemaker owned by Monte dei Paschi di Siena Banking Group, is preparing an issue of 2,500 futures based on Barolo's 1997 production.

Anglo and RMB Create Banking Giant

Merger of Financial-Services Units Will Form South Africa's Largest Company buying into a group which has phe-

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispunches JOHANNESBURG — Anglo nomenal potential for the future." American Corp. of South Africa Ltd. and RMB Holdings Ltd. said Tuesday they would merge their South Africa's largest company, with a market value of about 59

billion rand (\$11.84 billion). First National Bank Holdings Ltd. and Southern Life Association Ltd. shareholders will be traded offered 675 shares in Momentum Life Assurers Ltd. for every 100 shares held, the companies said.

both units of Anglo, while Mo-mentum is owned by RMB. All cross-shareholdings Southern and FNB would be eliminated, and the companies will become wholly-owned subsidiaries of the new entity, which will be called

The transaction allows Angle to latch on to the success of Moability to cut costs and win market million Southern Life shares. share, and lets RMB broaden its product line and become a broadbased financial services company.

'Momentum shareholders are price of 9 rand each.

Deutsche Bank 125-70 124-25 124-90 173-40 Deut Telekons 36-65 36-20 36-35 36-05 Dreschere Books 82-00 87-95 87-95 86-60 Energie BW 224 319 319 326-35 125 325 Pressentius Med 174-50 134-50 134-134 134-134-15 Pr. Krapp Hoes

The merger is expected to result RMB, Southern and Momentum in up to 2,400 lost jobs at Southern were suspended Friday.

Life and First National over the financial-services units to create next 12 months. As a result of the merger, First National Bank and Southern Life would be delisted. Anglo and RMB will each own

24 percent of the new company, with the rest being publicly RMB and Moment, which have

thrived because of their focus on corporate and investment banking First National and Southern are and insurance, are taking on companies several times their

The new company's market capitalization puts it ahead of a committee of government, labor South African Breweries, with 49.48 billion, and Anglo American, with 49.41 billion.

Valuation of the stock swap uses latest available number of shares outstanding: 435.5 million mentum, which has thrived on its First National shares and 189.6

Momentum also said it would sell new shares to existing share-holders to raise about 5.2 billion "For us you have to take a long- rand. The company said it would term view," said G.T. Ferreira, offer shareholders 42 shares for non-executive chairman of RMB. every 100 Momentum shares, at a

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Anglo's stock rose 11 rand, or 5.5 percent, to 211 rand. Shares of (Bloomberg, Reuters)

■ Anglo Puts Mines on Block

Free State Consolidated Gold is negotiating to sell about one third of its mining shafts, its parent, Anglo American Corp., said Tuesday, the Associated Press reported from Johannesburg.

Anglo said it was seeking buyers to save as much of the work force as possible. An estimated 2,300 jobs could be at risk if the shafts were closed. The proposed sale follows the recent establishment of and mining management representatives to review the accelerating loss of jobs in the gold industry.

Up to 100,000 miners could lose their jobs this year, the National Union of Mineworkers warned late last month. At least 42,000 miners lost their jobs last year. Gold prices have fallen to less

than \$300 per ounce from more than \$400 a year ago. With the world's deepest mines, South African mining companies spend about \$300 to extract each

France Sees 11 Countries **Set for Euro**

TOURS, France - Finance Min ister Dominique Strauss-Kahn said Tuesday that economic convergence efforts undertaken by EU members pointed to a fairly broad' euro membership of 11 countries at its outset, indicating that Italy has won its struggle to join.

Countled by Our Staff From Distractor

Mr. Strauss-Kahn also said Aus tria would probably preside over the first meeting of finance ministers representing countries adopting the

euro, the single European currency.
Of the European Union's 15 members, Britain, Sweden and Denmark have opted not to join the euro right away, while Greece does not meet the criteria.

A year ago, Italy and Spain seemed unlikely to qualify because of their history of large deficits and high inflation. Both are now seen as likely members after bringing their public finances under control.

"Probably only four countries won't take part in the euro," Mr. Strauss-Kahn said after a meeting with German economic policymakers. "The economic convergence that has taken place implies the euro will be broad. That wasn't obvious a year or two ago."

The founding members of the single currency will be picked at a meeting May 2 in Brussels. Exchange rates between countries will be fixed and the head of the European Central Bank, which will replace national central banks, will be chosen.

German and French officials said they were seeking a solution to a dispute over who should head the European Central Bank.

Mr. Strauss-Kahn has said he would like to see a meeting of the socalled Euro-X Council — the finance ministers of the countries adopting the euro - some time later in May

He said Tuesday that he would ask Austria if it could lead the meeting. Normally such meetings would be headed by the country holding the EU's six-month presidency, which is now Britain.

But because Britain does not want to take part in monetary union, Mr. rivals less than it wanted for 28.80 DM Telekom sought, Strauss-Kahn said the task should fall to Austria, which will take over the EU presidency July 1. Britain fought to prevent the cre-

ation of the Enro-X Council, saying it should be present when decisions were made that could affect its own (Bloomberg, AFX)

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Very briefly:

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• The European Commission approved agreements between European and South Korean semiconductor makers intended to speed resolution of dumping conflicts. The accords include setting up a data bank on costs and prices of some chips.

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• Bayer AG's fourth-quarter net profit income rose 18 percent, to 589 million Deutsche marks (\$322 million), as a weak Deutsche mark increased the value of overseas sales.

The European Court of Justice overturned as discriminatory

a 1994 framework agreement on European Union banana imports from four Latin American countries. • Norwich Union PLC, posted 1997 net profit of 33 percent,

to £495 million (\$811.2) as higher life insurance and pension profits offset a decline in general insurance. • French consumer confidence rose in February for the first time

in four months as unemployment fell, official figures showed. • Ahold NV's 1997 net profit surged 48 percent, to 933.8 million guilders (\$453.5 million), on a 39 percent increase in sales, to 50.6 billion guilders.

Deutsche Telekom Put on Hold

BONN way for more competition in local service.

Deutsche tions to homes and busi-Telekom AG must charge nesses. That is less than the use of local phone lines, Ger- although is it more than what many's telecommunications O.tel.o Communications regulator said, opening the GmbH and other competitors wanted to pay.

Telekom's rivals - O. tel o The former monopoly can and Mannesmann Arcor AG charge no more than 20.65 — said they now can gear up Deutsche marks (\$11.30) per competing services.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Tuesday, March 10 Prices in local currencies. Telekurs

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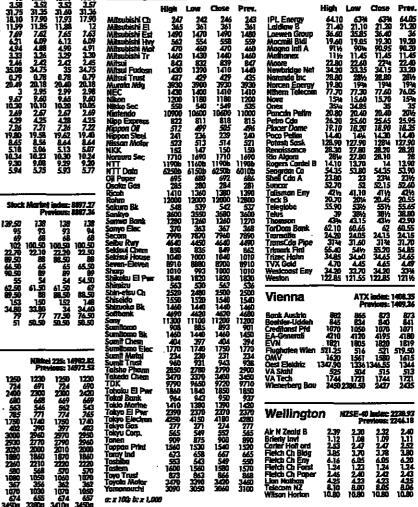
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The International Herald Tribune World Stock Index © tracks the U.S. dollar value of 280 internationally investable stocks from 25 countries. For more information, a free boolder is available by writing to The Trib Index, 181 Avenue Charles de Gaulle, 92521 Neutily Cedex, France.

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Indonesians See Humiliation in IMF Plan

By Seth Mydans New York Times Service

JAKARTA - Nearly two months later, Indonesians still shudder at the image. Their president sits hunched at a table, signing what amounts to an economic surrender agreement, as the head of the International Monetary Fund glares sternly at him with his arms folded

The image was in a widely printed photograph taken on Jan. 15 when President Suharto, under strong international pressure, agreed to a package of austerity measures that would cause pain for almost everybody here.

"The next day, I remember, people weren't talking about the contents of the agreement but about that photograph: how could our president be humiliated that way?" said Dewi Fortuna Anwar, a leading

proud country. We have been known to choose to go hungry rather than give in to outside pressure."

Since then Mr. Suharto has dug in his heels, resisting full implementation of the agreement while sug-gesting that he had his own formula called "IMF-plus." He has not defined this formula, but it is clearly intended to show that the IMF is not

Indonesia's sole master. Now a new round of arm-wrestling is under way between Indonesia and the IMF, and nationalist resentment is mounting.

"We welcome the help of in-ternational bodies like the IMF and the World Bank," said Ginandjar Kartasamigta, an official of the rulhumiliate us, we would be better off without their aid."

On Friday, the Fund announced

month its second \$3 billion dis- of the IMF and Mr. Suharto. While bursement from a \$40 billion rescue package first negotiated last Indonesia's economic system to October. It said Indonesia had not make it more liberal and open, Mr. vet met the "basic conditions" for the release of more money.

[Officials of the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank said Tuesday their agencies would withhold \$2.5 billion in loans because of Mr. Suharto's reluctance to implement reforms, Agence France-Presse reported.

[Indonesia said Tuesday it would send a top-level team to Washing-ton soon for talks with the IMF and the United States, Reuters reported. Fuad Bawazier, strongly tipped to be the new finance minister, said ing party, Golkar. "But if that the government's chief economic means they can impose their will or adviser, Widjojo Nitisastro, would head the delegation and leave for Washington next Tuesday.]

Part of the conflict seems to stem

the Fund is seeking an overhaul of Suharto appears to be focused on short-term recovery. He has cited the need to strengthen the currency, which now stands at less than 30 percent of its value last summer. To this end Mr. Suharto has been considering setting an artificially strong rate for the currency but at the risk of long-term problems.

Analysts here say this quick fix is at least in part intended to bail out the president's wealthy and influential children and friends, whose enterprises have been crippled by

the weak currency.
On Sunday, Mr. Suharto said the liberal economy the Fund was seeking would run counter to Indone-sia's tradition of a communal and family-based economy under the political scientist. "Indonesia is a it was delaying at least until next from the apparently diverging goals protection of the government.

Hashimoto Vows To Get to Bottom Of Japan Scandals Compiled by Our Staff From Desputches

TOKYO - Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto pledged Tuesday to get to the bottom of scandals threatening to engulf the Bank of Japan and the Finance Ministry as a new report surfaced of alleged wrongdoing by an official.

But in remarks to the lower house of Parliament, Mr. Hashimoto and Finance Minister Hikaru Matsunaga declined to comment on an opposition lawmaker's suggestion that the central bank chief, Yasuo Matsushita, and Mr. Matsunaga should

resign if wrongdoing were proved.

Mr. Hashimoto said investigations were continuing into connections between financial institutions and sokaiya, or corporate racketeers, and that the scandals had now spread to include the arrests of Finance Ministry officials on suspicion of accepting lavish entertainment in return for favors.

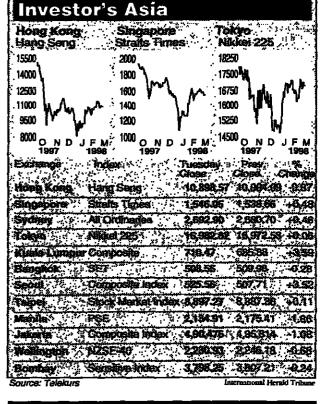
Meanwhile, a newspaper reported Tuesday that a senior Finance Ministry official accepted millions of dollars in entertainment from the banks he was supposed to be regulating. (Reuters, AFP)

■ Nikko Faces New Charges

Japanese prosecutors issued fresh charges against two former executives of Nikko Securities Co., prompting authorities to slap a suspension on the brokerage's dealings in government bonds just a week after a previous suspension expired, Agence France-Presse reported.

Prosecutors indicted the Nikko executives over an alleged payoff to a lawmaker from the ruling Liberal Democratic Party who committed

suicide last month, reports said. The executives were indicted in November on charges of paying off



Very briefly:

 Australian business confidence has plummeted to a two-year low in the wake of the Asian economic crisis, according to a survey by the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Westpac Banking Corp. It found that manufacturers expected exports this year to hit a seven-year low. • South Korean citizens will be canvassed for silver by SK Global Co., Daewoo Corp., Samsung Corp., LG International Corp. and Korea Zinc Co. starting Monday in an effort to raise the country's foreign exchange reserves.

• SK Telecom Co. will invite outside directors to its board, following a request by four foreign funds that hold a stake in the South Korean giant. SK Telecom will also introduce outside auditors and stock options.

• China Air Lines Ltd. is firing three senior managers and 67 consultants following a crash last month that killed 202

• Cebu Pacific Air, which suspended operations last month after a plane crash killed 104 people, is laying off about half of its work force following losses of about \$1 million, Reuters, AP

Zhu Blames Managers for Losses at State-Owned Firms

guilty in the least when their businesses are suffering great losses," can such enterprises change for the better with such people in charge?"

firms. "We cannot put an end to BEIJING — Deputy Prime Min- state enterprises continuing to lose

Last September, the 15th Com-

TOKYO - Mitsubishi Motors

Corp., Japan's fourth-largest auto-

maker, said Tuesday it would post a group net loss of 110 billion yen (\$860.7

million) for the year ending March 31,

The company cited slumping sales

The automaker also said it would re-

duce its number of executives and close a

Thai factory in an effort to slash costs by

350 billion yen over the next three years

and return to profitability by next year.

Mitsubishi Motors' revised estimate

of a loss of 110 billion yen for the current

financial year, which would be its first

net loss in 24 years, was sharply widened

from the forecast made in November for

a loss of 40 billion yea. The company

loss of 60 billion yen, reversing an earli-

said it also expected to report a pretax market closed.

almost triple its earlier estimate.

both in Japan and Southeast Asia.

The overhaul has already cost 12 domestic demand was stalling the million people their jobs and a further 11 million jobs could be lost this

the state sector into shape so China can avoid an Asian-style economic

Mr. Zhu's drastic government reingly in favor of eliminating 15 min-istry-level bodies and cutting China's huge civil service by half.

economy, data released Tuesday showed. An economist for the State Sta-

tistical Bureau, which released the data, said the pace was well below what was needed to achieve this year's targeted economic growth. "If China wants to hit its 8 percent GDP growth target, industrial-

output growth should be at about 10 percent," said the economist, who declined to be identified. Industrial output growth was 10.4

a corporate racketeer.

CAPITAL ITALIA

Société Anonyme d'Investissement

Registered office: L-1528 Luxembourg, 5 Boulevard de la Foire R.C. Luxembourg B 8458

Shareholders are invited to attend the

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS which will be held at 5. Boulevard de la Foire, Luxembourg on March 31, 1998 at 10.00 am:

Approval of the Report of the Board of Directors and of the Auditor. Approval of the Financial Statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1997 and decision on allocation of

Discharge of the Directors.

Election of the Directors and re-appointment of the Auditor.

1. Resolutions shall require no quorum but a simple majority of the shares present or represented at the Med by producing at the Meeting a certificate of dec has been issued to them against deposit of their share car tificates with their bankers or all offices of Credito Italiano in italy, five days prior to the Meeting. Holders of bearer shares may vote at the Meeting by proxy by completing the form of my which will be made available to them against deposit of their share certificates as aforesaid or presentation of their cartificates of deposit. In oder to be valid all forms of

proxy must reach the company at its registered

Credito italiano, five clear days prior to the Meeting. Share certificates so deposited will be retained until the

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Meeting or any adjournment thereof has been concluded.

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

ister Zhu Rongji called Tuesday for money without solving the leadera shake-up in the management of state-owned industries, blaming in- the outdated management struccompetent executives for many of ture," Mr. Zhu said. the companies' problems, the Xinhua press agency reported.

Mr. Zhu said inept managers would be fired under the overhand he planned for money-losing state industries should be accelerated.

Democracy Helps

Manila Endure Crisis

The Associated Press

said Tuesday that democracy helped the Philippines ward off the

devastating effects of Asia's finan-

cial storm, and urged other coun-

tries in the region to hasten demo-

Although it has been burt by the

crisis, the Philippines has emerged

as one of the healthiest economies

in Southeast Asia, mainly due to

reforms that were put in place be-

said Vinod Thomas, director of the

World Bank's Economic Develop-

ment Institute. He said democratic

institutions made it easier for in-

vestors to detect a country's eco-

fore the turmoil began last year. "The investment of the Philip-pines in democracy is paying off,"

cratic reforms.

nomic problems.

MANILA — Economic experts

ship problem and without changing year, according to official figures. Mr. Zhu, dubbed the "czar" of

the Chinese economy, is the chief 'Some executives do not feel architect of China's economic reform program. He is also virtually assured of being appointed prime Mr. Zhu said at a meeting of the minister at the end of the annual National People's Congress. "How session of the National People's Congress next week.

munist Party Congress decreed that dropped sharply to 8 percent in the the pace of reform of state-owned first two months of 1998 from a year

Mr. Zhu has drafted plans to force

On Tuesday, Parliament passed structuring plan, voting overwhelm-

China's industrial output growth earlier in a new sign that sluggish year earlier.

to 3.7 trillion yen.

uneconomical.

Mitsubishi Motors Nearly Triples Forecast

Of Annual Loss as Sales Slump in Asia

percent in the corresponding 1997 period. The growth rate in January was 11.3 percent compared with a (AFP, Reuters)

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS which will be held at 5. Boulevard de la Foke, Luxembourg on March 31, 1998 at 11,00 am: AGENDA

Approved of the Report of the Board of Directors and of the

Approval of the Financial Statements for the fiscal year

ended December 31, 1997.

Decision on allocation of net profits. Discharge of the Directors.

Election of the Directors and re-appointment of the Auditor.

1. Resolutions shall require no quorum but a simple majority of the shares present or represented at the Meeting Holders of bearer shares may vote at the Meeting in person by producing at the Meeting either share certificates or a certificate of deposit issued by their bank which will be

COLA: Schools Are New Frontier in Soft-Drink Giants' Conquest

Continued from Page 13

tiple bids from competing soft-drink giants, however, their main concern often chines are all Coke. seems less about corporate influence than about which contract to sign.

One of the most lucrative deals was exceeds its "requirement" of selling district spokeswoman, Julie Zwahr.

Pepsi vending machines; now the ma-

signed last November between the Col-the district more than \$4.2 million over 15 an, Jennifer Brown. orado Springs school district and Coca- years. That includes a \$1.6 million pay-

oversees the program. Until last autumn, many of the 53 schools in the district had pany that spent \$1.6 billion on adverpany that spent \$1.6 billion on advertising worldwide last year.

er estimate of 15 billion yen in profit.

In the year to March 1997, Mitsubishi

The company lowered its forecast of

Mitsubishi Motors will close the

plant in Lad Krabang, Thailand, where

it made pick-up trucks, and increase

exports of pick-ups from its remaining That operations. The company also will

cease production in New Zealand be-

cause of the reduction in tariff levels in

that country, which made its operations

on Tuesday to 470. The revision of the

loss forecast was announced

Mitsubishi Motors shares rose 10 ven

(AFP, Reuters, Bloomberg)

Motors reported a pretax profit of 9.5

billion yen and net profit of 11.6 billion

consolidated sales from 3.9 trillion yen

yen. Sales totaled 3.7 trillion ven.

The trend of exclusive contracts with Another deal, struck in late January high schools is so recent that the national between the Keller school district in Parent-Teacher Association has no of-Texas and Coke's local bottler, will pay

Some opposition has cropped up, Cola, in which the district will receive \$8 ment that the school plans to spend im- however. In Wisconsin, a bill that was million over 10 years - and more if it mediately on computer equipment, said a introduced in the state legislature this year would ban such contracts, as well as 70,000 cases of Coke products a year. The cost to Coke — assuming envarious forms of advertising, in all pubsaid John Bushey, a district official who rollment stays at 14,000 — comes to lic schools.

ued to them against deposit of their share certificates. Halders of hearer shares may vote at the Meeting by proxy by completing the form of proxy which will be made avaiable to them against deposit of their share certificates as Share certificates so deposited will be retained until the

Meeting or any adjournment thereof has been concluded.

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Herald Eribune

11-03-98

TIME: This Editor Is the Life of the Magazine's Ongoing Party

the rest of his staff as well as with Time's president, Bruce there ever since. Hallett. And the new direction in which Mr. Isaacson has taken the magazine is subtle.

But for longtime Time watchers, Mr. Isaacson's redirection of the magazine was necessary, "Walter realized that the magazine could not stand still," said Henry Grunwald, who edited Time from 1968 to 1977, when he became editor in chief of Time Inc.

Mr. Isaacson has expanded coverage of science and technology and cut back on covcrage of foreign affairs. He has brought in several new writers, many of them young. He has been a strategic thinker, planning special projects.

Most of all, he has hammered away at the idea of telling stories through people. "For the last two years, Time has been aimed at someone who has been hit with headlines all week long," said Mr. Isaacson, sitting in his white shinsleeves the day after the big party. "We assume they know the news, so we're saying, 'Here is what is behind

Mr. Isaacson said he was particularly proud of such articles as the profile of Intel's chief, Andrew Grove, by Joshua Cooper Ramo and the article on the search for Ira Einhorn, the fugitive hippie, by Steve Lopez

...A Harvard-educated Rhodes scholar and the son of an engineer, Mr. Isaacson was born in New Orleans. He

of a book leave, has been prostitutes.

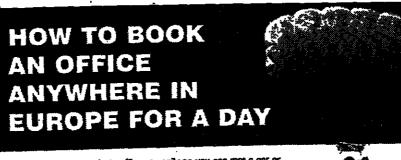
decessor, James Gaines, made the magazine a formi-some Time executives say the dable rival. "We think some Time executives say the dable rival.

magazine lost relevance and they're a really serious comheft, experiencing some
journalistically embarrassing

Thomas of Newsweek, which design.

Continued from Page 13 started at Time at age 27 as a episodes, such as publishing has a circulation of 3.2 mil-national-affairs writer in staged photographs purport-aging editor, James Kelly, and 1978 and, with the exception ing to show Russian child by, we worry about them; we want to beat them." Under Mr. Isaacson's pre-say that Mr. Isaacson has of U.S. News & World Report, in particular praised Mr.

Isaacson's "sophisticated"



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WORLD ROUNDUP

Two Suits for Tyson

BOXING Two women have filed a \$22 million lawsuit against Mike Tyson, claiming he verbally and physically abused them at a restaurant after his sexual advances toward one of them were spurned.

The former heavyweight champion became abusive while he and the women were having breakfast at a bistro in Washington after a night out, the suit says. Tyson, who served three years in prison for rape, became more enraged when he found out one of the women is a corrections officer, the suit says.

The women, Sherry Cole and Chevelle Butts, both 30, appeared at a news conference Tuesday in Baltimore but did not speak because they are still too traumatized, said their lawyer, A. Dwight Pettit.

 On Monday, Tyson himself launched a suit. He is suing his former managers, Rory Holloway and John Horne, claiming they betrayed him by arranging the deal that gave Don King exclusive rights to promote him. Tyson asked for \$100 million damages.

English Club Backs Down

RUGBY UNION Northampton. a leading English club, said Tuesday that its players could tour with England this summer. Northampton had instructed its internationals to rest this summer, but backed down after Clive Woodward, the England coach, said he would drop the players from all matches. (Reuters)

South Africa Wins Easily

CRICKET Anil Kumble and Venkatapathy Raju spun India to a 179run victory over Australia Tuesday in the first test in Madras. Chasing a victory target of 348. Australia was all out for 168. Kumble took four

wickets and Raju three. (Reuters) • South Africa took just 26 minutes to take the last three Pakistan: wickets and complete a 259-run victory in the third test in Port Elizabeth. The series finished

A Champion Is Reborn: Agassi Zips Back to Form

By Robin Finn New York Times Service

INDIAN WELLS, California - Stasis has never interested Andre Agassi. Blue hair, blond hair, Mohawk hair, no hair, he has taken every hair on his

On the tennis court, he has pretty much gone in the same direction. A dedicated recycler of himself, Agassi has performed every way but predictably in his 13 years on the stump, but this latest reincarnation, one that has him leading the pack with a 17-2 record and an 11-match winning spree after doing a dead man's float in 1997, may

be his most ingenious.

Fitness, focus and a fanatical desire to compete have ganged up on him with the force of a religious conversion. And Agassi is ready to be converted.

"This is new to me," Agassi, 27, said after opening his campaign at the Newsweek Champions Cup on Monday with a 7-6 (7-3), 6-4 expulsion of 34th-ranked Todd Woodheides Todd Woodbridge, yet another player ranked ahead of him but unable to thwart him. "I'm out there not just focused, but looking forward to it. I mean, there's still more tennis in me, and I'm going to go in there and get it. Today was about me showing up and getting the job done."

Agassi wore his hard hat and carried

his lunch pail to work in Scottsdale. Arizona, on Sunday, where he won his second title of the year, the 36th of his artfully checkered career.

It wasn't easy to get in shape, to stop taking it out on the knife and fork; it's been nothing short of hard work," he said of his effort to reverse the free-fall he took when he put tennis on the back burner for most of 1996 and 1997.

A scant year after hitting No. 1, at the close of last season. Agassi went off the man to the tennis version of Skid Row, the challenger circuit, to try to repair a triple-digit ranking. He had lost that



Andre Agassi besting Todd Woodbridge: "There's still more tennis in me."

winning feeling, and if he had to demote himself to the minors to retrieve it, so be it. He convinced himself that a change of pace and place would do him good.

It was a calculated decision to make

the steps necessary to get back to a place where I could step on the court and feel good about myself, "he said. "It was the marking period at the end of the year."

Six months ago, he was shagging balls "and flipping the scorecard myself" in Burbank, California, uncertain if he would ever rejoin the big boys on the big circuit. But after winning a title there, his first since he followed up his 1996 Olympic gold medal with a victory in Cincinnati. Agassi zipped into 1998 like a man who was definitely on the rebound.

"I'm feeling like I'm moving well. reading the ball, picking it up," he said. "I have shots that guys can't hit, things that are weapons, and I've been looking forward to that feeling for a long time, and now it's there."

Martina Hingis, the top-ranked woman, breezed through her third round meeting with Meike Babel of Germany, 6-2, 6-0, but there were a couple of upsets to the seeded ranks in the crowded schedule at this co-ed event.

The French Open champion, Gustavo Kuerten of Brazil, hampered by a lowerback strain that hindered the No. 10's service, was upset in the first round, 6-4, 6-7 (4-7), 6-2, by the 27th-ranked Nicolas Kiefer of Germany.

Irina Spirlea of Romania, the No. 6. seed, sprayed her forehand everywhere but inside the lines and was ousted by the 15th-seeded Natasha Zvereva, 6-3, 7-5.

for Orioles Just a Year 150 Million Brazilians Keep Heat on Zagalo

No Alternative to Victory for National Coach

By Rob Hughes
uernational Herald Triban

ARIO ZAGALO, the man paid to take Brazil to the defense of its World Cup this June, once memorably observed that the population of his country was 150 million, and therefore there were 150 million who regarded themselves as the national team's soccer coach.

In his 66th year, Zagalo knows his history - and has cause to worry that history might repeat itself. As of Wed-

WORLD SOCCER

nesday, there are 91 days to the kickoff of the World Cup tournament in France, and Zagalo will remember 1970 when he inherited the team that was to win the

Zagalo had taken over from Joao Saldanha, who was too leftist for Brazil's military government and was removed from his post. Thus did Zagalo achieve the third part of his unique World Cup record: He won two as a player in 1958 and 1962 and his third as coach in 1970. In 1994, he shared in Brazil's fourth World Cup triumph as an assistant to Carlos Alberto Parreira.

He still has a strong chance for a fifth World Cup. Brazil, as ever, has the most gifted players on the planet. But Old Mario must be feeling the breath of younger men on his neck — young players who, unforgivably, lost to the United States last month, and Zico. a former playing idol who was drafted a few days ago by Zagalo's employer, the Brazilian soccer federation, as "technical coordinator" to the World Cup squad.

The Brazilian soccer federation rarely makes these changes clean and complete. In 1970 it changed the coaching hierarchy by announcing that the technical committee in charge of World Cup prep-

aration was being "dissolved."
"Cowards!" Saldanha thundered at that time. "They don't have the guts to tell me I'm fired. Am I an ice cube to be

Then the government set up a new committee with Zagalo in charge.

Some years later, I spent an enlight-ening morning in Saldanha's apartment in a suburb of Rio de Janeiro. High-strung, highly amusing and still in defiant high dudgeon against those who gave his team to Zagalo — "a technician" - Saldanha spoke of the intrinsic flair and sense of fun of the true Brazilian, a mix that raises the game to a performing art. --

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Brazil was by then preparing for the 1978 World Cup. Zico was one of its sar players. Saldanha was furious that these cowards — he used the term liberally — were putting Zico in a straitjacket. The national trainer was Claudio Continho. an army officer who, with Parreira and Zagalo, reasoned that Brazil needed more discipline to regain the World Cup.

The pragmatists have to some extent

proved their point.
In Pasadena, California, where Brazil regained the World Cup in 1994 by keeping its nerve better than Italy on a penalty shoot-out, Dunga, the captain chosen by Parreira, said: "No more jogo bonito," or pretty play. "This is the Brazil of sweat and sacrifice."

Yes, there was order. Yes, Saldanha's commitment to liberty was sacrificed. But Brazilians cannot help themselves when the contest is going their way, cannot suppress entirely the extravagance of their gifts. That is why we love them. All the rest are pretenders compared to the boys from Brazil.

Parreira and Zagalo, the coaches in 1994, understood this, but to win back the World Cup they had to be stoical against critics like myself who want, always, the full Brazilian romance, Such critics believe - as another marvelous but mistreated Brazil coach, Tele Santana, believed — that art is infinitely. preferable to method.

Zagalo has been there, done that, four times over. He knows Ronaldo, warns him about the demands and the fickleness of the viewers and the pundits. He knows more than any living man the diplomatic path between officials who

know little but expect a lot. He knows the intrusiveness of the media, knows the signs of selfdoubt and the Catch 22 danger

of arrogant overconfidence. Has Zico developed this awareness? Has he a proven record of coaching the best players on earth? He was a fantastic player, the "White Pele," they predicted, yet Zico never won the World Cup.

There may be a concealed joined the Rangers before the depth to him, but Zagalo's start of this season, he hadn't record this time round is 52 played for nearly a year. After games played, 2 lost. The two defeats were in the final of the 1996 Olympics to an astonishing Nigerian team, and the setback last month in the United States, where only the sponsors and possibly the Americans imagined that beating a weakened, uninterested Brazil was a real coup.

> Naturally, the 150 million Brazilians were irate. The world champions don't lose to rookies, even in friendly competition. But suggestions that Zagalo is out of touch with the times are unproved. The suggestion that Zico, whose play-WHE MEAVEE ing prime bridged the gap between Zagalo and the current generation, can "interpret" an old man's musings for

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sulting and disruptive. "I am not concerned with whether I am above Zagalo or under him," Zico reportedly said. "My only concern is to help the Brazil team do its best for Brazilian soccer." Then try, sir, a little deference to age and experience.

modern players could be in-

Rob Hughes is on the staff

A Rare Victory On the Road For Lightning

The Associated Press Tampa Bay ranks last in National Hockey League standings but, for one night, the Lightning streaked ahead of the Colorado Avalanche.

Colorado is the Pacific Division leader and is 49 points ahead of the

NHL ROUNDUP

Lightning of the Atlantic Division in league standings, but Tampa Bay won on Monday night, 2-1, in Denver. The Lightning had not won a road game in 10 previous tries and has just four

victories in 32 road games this season. Stephane Richer scored twice, including the game-winner at 3:47 of the third period, to lead the Lightning With the score tied at 1-1. Richer

picked up the puck at his own blue line and skated past the Colorado defenseman Alexei Gusarov. When he reached the left circle, he sent a low drive past Patrick Roy's glove side to give Tampa Bay the victory. Rangers 2, Devils 2 Wayne Gretzky's

goal with 1:05 remaining lifted New York into a tie with New Jersey. The visiting Devils, who extended their unbeaten streak to 11 games and tied the idle Dallas Stars for the NHL lead in points, went ahead, 2-1, in the second period on a power-play goal by Patrik

Capitals 5, Flames 2 Esa Tikkanen



Toronto's Jamie Macoun sending San Jose's Patrick Marleau sprawling.

had two assists in his Washington debut and Peter Bondra scored twice as the Capitals beat Calgary to win their second straight game. Canadiens 6, Panthers 1 Andy Moog

stopped 22 shots, and Brian Savage scored two power-play goals as Montreal beat Florida to snap a sixgame losing streak at home Oilers 4. Blackhawks 3 Dean McAm-

mond scored with 42 seconds left in overtime as Edmonton won in Chicago despite blowing a 3-0 third-period

Blues 4; Canucks 0 Jamie McLennan stopped 19 shots at Vancouver to record his second shutout in five days and

Pct .733

extend his unbeaten streak to 12 games. Brett Hull, Pierre Turgeon and Chris McAlpine had a goal and assist each as St. Louis won its sixth straight.

Sharks 3, Maple Leafs 2 Shawn Burr and Patrick Marleau scored in a 1:42 span midway through the third period to lead San Jose over visiting Toronto. Todd Gill added a goal for the Sharks with 37 seconds left on a shot from behind his own net that caromed off the boards and into the empty Toronto net.

Kings 4, Mighty Ducks 3 Yanic Perreault tipped in Mattias Norstrom's shot on a power play with 42 seconds left in overtime as Los Angeles beat visiting Anaheim.

1. Tiger Woods, 3.134,033 point: 2. David Duval, 2,986,347

Davis Love 3d. 2,060,703

4. Justin Leonard, 2.076.65/ 5. Jim Furyk, 1,869,480

Knockout of Lindros Highlights A Major Headache for the NHL

By Dave Anderson

NEW YORK - At 6 feet 4 Lindros is one of hockey's biggest and strongest players. He's not easy to knock off the puck, much less off his skates. But last Saturday, the Philadelphia Flyers' center crumpled to the ice, literally knocked out when slammed on the chin by a shoulder of Darius Kasparaitis, a Pitts-

burgh Penguin defenseman. As he tried to stand, Lindros fell to his knees twice. Helped off the ice by teammates, he soon was being examined by Dr. Charles Burke. the Penguins' physician.

Eric was a little bit different than some of the concussions that we see," Burke said. "I don't know if the word is somnolent, but he didn't want to talk, he didn't want to answer questions. Some of these guys, they sit there and they are fully alert. they just can't process inforobviously knew who he was. but he didn't know where he was or what he was doing there. But when I asked him, 'What's your brother's name?' he knew it.

minutes, but it took Eric about an hour and 15 minutes. He inches and 236 pounds, Eric could remember that he left his little bag on the bus, but he didn't remember much of the

> game.' Concussions are becoming one of the National Hockey League's primary concerns. How to reduce the number. How to treat them.

> Lindros won't be tested until next week and won't play for at least two weeks. Paul Kariya, the Anaheim left wing, hasn't played since a Feb. 1 cross-check to the jaw by the Chicago defenseman Gary Suter, he is out indef-

played since Nov. 14. According to the NHL, 55 concussions this season. For cussion, concussion some years ago, there is a family factor. His old Islander wing, was forced mation. In Eric's case, he just to quit hockey after a second seemed a little less alert. He concussion in eight days in another one." the 1995-96 season; he also had several concussions as a junior, another as a rookie.

"What was scary to me, each time it took longer to der to create a basis for comresolve," Brett Lindros has parison after a concussion.

"Most of these guys begin said. "My last concussion to clear in about 15 to 30 took eight or nine weeks." When Pat LaFontaine

a concussion on Oct. 17, 1996, while with Buffalo, he played seven games despite massive migraines. That concussion had been his fifth. "The problem is," said

Brian Burke, the NHL director of hockey operations, 'it's an injury we can't re-

By the nature of its violent game, the NHL also can't prevent concussions. They're going to occur every so often. Helmets help, but the Lindros initely. Dennis Vaske, the Is- and Kariya concussions were lander defenseman, hasn't not helmet-related; each was more like a boxing knockout. "We're more interested in

other players have suffered a player's return from a consaid Charles Lindros, who had a previous Burke, who is the chairman of the NHL's study of post-con-cussion syndrome. "When cussion syndrome. brother Brett, then a 20-year- it's safe to return. What happens if he has another one. How close is the danger of

For the first time, more than 900 NHL players underwent brain-function tests at training camp last year in or-

44: Mallorca 43: Volencia 41; Espanyol, Red Zaragaza 39; Departivo Caruna. Vatladold 36: Oviedo 34: Salamenca. Rocing Santande.

of The Times of London

SCOREBOARD BASEBALL

EXHIBITION BASEBALL

Cincinnal 4. Tampo Bay (ss) 3 Houston 10. Cleveland 5 Los Angeles (ss) 8, Kansas City (ss) 5 Consas City (ss) 10, Philadelp N.Y. Meris & Los Angeles (ss) 4.70; Affonda 11. St. Louis 5 Chicago Cubs 10, Anaheim 2 Oakland 11, San Francisco 3 Son Diego 2 Seattle 1

Dehoit (55) 4, Tampa Bay (55) 1 Chicago White Sox 5, Colorado 2

STATES TO A CHARLES TO STATE OF THE STATES O

BASKETBALL

NBA STANDINGS EASTERN CONFERENCE 19 26 29 29 .525 J05 .623 .600 .525 .492 .443 .217

23

.492 .250 .213 .081 NSION
15 .754 —
18 .700 39
21 .656 6
25 .576 11
37 .413 21
47 .230 32
48 .213 33 Ortando 25 22 19 22—88
Phillodolphia 25 22 12 19—78
O: Anderson 8-22 5-8 22, Grant 7-15 4-4 18;
P: Iverson 7-14 4-6 19, Smith 7-16 2-2 16,
Retiounds—Orlando 59 (Grant 11), Phillo-

delphia 50 (Smith 12). Assists—Oriendo 20 (Anderson 7), Philadelphia 19 (Iverson 7). L.A. Clippers 22 29 29 25—105 Phoenix 22 42 38 22—134 Clippers: Pidhowski 8-110-023, Austin 6-109-221: P: McCloud 7-92-221, Johnson 5-79-919. Rebounds—Clippers 40 (Murray, Vrankovic 6), Phoenix 43 (Bryant 9). Assists—Clippers 26 (Murray 7). Phoenix 40 (Kidd 13). Houston 25 32 21 15— 92 Utah 19 28 27 26—190 H: Johnson 13-18 7-7 37, Drexier 6-15 0-0

15: U: Malone 10-189-1229, Homacek 6-122-2 15. Rebounds—Houston 35 (Garkley 11), Utah 59 (Malone 21). Assists—Houston 20 (Price 7), Utah 23 (Malone 6). Mah 23 (Matone 6) 10 27 29 17 20— 93 10 18 20 33 17— 89 10 18 20 34 17— 89 10 18 20 36 18 20 Secrumento
G.S.: Dempler 6-13 10-14 22, Marshall 8-21
G.S.: Dempler 6-13 10-14 22, Adarshall 8-21
G.S.: Dempler 6-13 10-14 22, Marshall 8-21
G. S.: Williamson 12-22 3-6 27, Owens 1017 2-3 22, Richmond 8-18 4-5 22, Rabounds—Golden State 77 (Weatherspoon, Marshall Caffey 13), Secramento 55 (Williamson 11). Assists—Golden State 17 (Williamson 11).

3:4 5. Stanford 6. Texas Tech 11. Alabama 12. Fig. interna 538 398 382 366 287 280 258 232 148 15. W. Kentucky 16. Illinois 17. Virginia Wisconsin 32, Nebraska 26, 3 m missouri 3. 22, Liberty 21, Arkansos 18, Georgia 14, Washington 14, Marquette 8, Oregon 8, Virginia Tech 4, Kent 5, UC Santo Borbara 5, Colorado St. 4, Notre Dame 3, Tulane 2, Indiana 1, Rice 1, Wis.-Green Bay 1,

THE AP WOMEN'S TOP 25

Top 25 teams in Associated Press' romen's college basketball poll, with first-

GOLF PRESIDENTS CUP Standings for the Presidents Cup Match to be played Dec. I 1-13 at Royal Malbourne Golf

7. Scott Hach, 1,821,663 8. Mark O'Meara, 1,592,724 9. Billy Maytair, 1,495,222 12. Mark Calcavecchia, 1,337,856 13. Stewart Clair, 1,324,888 i4. Loren Roberts, 1,310,018 15. Fred Couples, 1,302,911 INTERNATIONAL TEAM Greg Norman, Australia, 10.30
 Nick Price, Zimbabwe, 8.71
 Jumbo Ozald, Japan, 8.24 5. Vijoy Singh, FIJI 6.18 6. Steve Elkington, Australia, 6.10 7. Frank Nobile, New Zealand, 5.09 8. Mark McNutty, Zimbabwe, 3.97 9. Shigeki Maruyama, Japan, 3.79 10. Stuart Appleby, Australia, 3.68 11. Joe Ozaki, Japan, 3.06 12. David Frost, South Africa. 2.79 13. Robert Allenby, Australia, 2.64

ICE HOCKEY NHL STANDINGS

ATLANTIC DIVISION
W. L. T. PIS GF. GA 39 16 8 86 182 125 32 20 9 73 178 142 28 24 11 67 174 166 19 27 17 55 155 174 22 32 8 52 162 174 18 32 12 48 148 182

20 34 9 49 149 193 19 35 10 48 177 227 Cote) 3, C., Titov 17 (Fleury, Hulse) Second dra 39 (Cate Hunter) 7, W-Nikolishin 3 (Kiee) Shots an goal: C- 6-11-6--23, W-9-13-

N.J., 10-15-10-0-35. New York 2-6-7-5-20. Goeiles: N.J.-Brodeur. New York, Richter.

Brunet 6 (Koivu). 4. F., Kazlov B (Jovanovski, Welts) (pp). 5. M.-Savage 20 (Damphousse, Rudinsky) (pp). 4. M.-Brisebois 4 (Kohru, Savage) (pp). 7. M.-Savage 21 (Hoglund, Damphousse) (pp). Shots on goal: F- 7-11. 5—23. M. 7-7-13—27. Gaalies: F- Vanblesbrouck. M.-Maog.
Edmonton 1 2 0 1—4

Swipson 2 (Amonte, Shantz) 5, C-Simpson 3 (Shantz, Chelfos) (pp), 6, C-, Kilger 1 (Suter) (pp), Overtime: 7, E-McAmmond 14 (Fraser) Shots on goal: E-5-75-2—19, C-10-7-17-1—35, Goalies: E-Joseph, C-Hackett, Tanpa Bay 0 1 1—2 Colorade
First Period: C-Odgers 4 (Denovar, Veile)
Second Period: T-Richer 10 (Yseboart,
Renberg) (pp). Third Period: T-Richer 11
(Wiemer, McBain) Shots on god: T- 12-7
2—21. C- 8-3-8—19. Goalies: T-Fitzpathick. C-

St. Leute 1 2 1—4
Vancouver 6 0 0—0
First Period: S.L.-Turgeon 14 (Hutil,
Duchesme) (pp). Second Period: S.L.McAlpine 1 (Courtholi, Pronger) 3, S.L.Conroy 9 (Pronger, McAlpine) Third Period:
S.L.-Hull 24 (Mouphy, Turgeon) (pp). Shots
on goal: S.L.- 10-6-5—21. V- 6-8-5—19.
Geoffice: S.L.-McLennon, V-Irbe, Snow.

First Period: None. Second Period: None Third Period: T-Warriner 5 (Domi, Markov)
2 San Jose Burr 4 (MacLean, Ricci) 3, S.J.Markou 12 (Matleau, MacLean) 4, S.J.-Gäle
(Vernon) (en). S. T-Maccun 1 (Domi) Shels
on good: T- 4-8-10-22. S.J.- 10-6-7-23.
Goalles: T-Potvin, S.J.-Vernon,
Analysia

Gottless T.-Polvin, S.J.-Vernon,
Abshleim

Di 1 2 0—3
Los Angeles
Dis Angeles

A-Rucchin 12 (Cullen) (pp). 6, A-Selonne 42, Overline: 7, L.A.-Perreguli 24 (Norstrom, Courtnoli) (pp). Shots on good: A- 6-14-8-1—29. L.A.- 3-9-11-2—25. Gooffes: A-

CRICKET INDIA VS. AUSTRALIA TUESDAY IN MADRAS, INDU

THIRD AND FINAL TEST TUESDAY IN PORT ELIZABETH, S. AFRIC with Africa: 293 and 206-7 declared Pakistan 106 and 134 South Africa won by 259 and tied series 1-1 BARBADOS VS. ENGLAND THREE-DAY MATCH IONDAY BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOS idos: 472-6 declared and 51-1

SOUTH AFRICA VS. PAKISTAI

Match ended in a draw. TENNIS

CONDAT IN THURAN WELLS, CALIFOR

Marfina Hingle (1), Switz, d. Melke Babel Germany, 6-2, 6-0: Natastra Zvereva (15), Belarus. d. Irina Spirica (6), Romania. 6-3, 7-5. Sandra Cacic. U.S., d. Sandrine Testud (9) Fr., 4-6, 7-5 (7-3), 7-6 (7-3); Steffi Graf (3), Ger., def. Ai Sugiyama (11), Japan, 6-0, 6-1.

SOCCER

SPANISH FIEST DIVISION Valencia 3, Merida 0 irid 50; Celta Vigo 47; Atletico Mad

Rangers 0, Dundee 0 Replay: Tuesday, March 17

Roda JC Kerkrade 1, Fevenoord 2 TRANSITIONS

BASSBALL AMERICAN

AMERICAN LEAGUE

CHICAGO—Agreed to terms with RHP Johns

Ambrose RHP Lorenzo Borcelo, RHP Corpos

Costillo, RHP Netson Cruz, LHP Scott Eyes

LH Ton Serribaro, RHP Kettir Foutbacker

Castilia, RHP Neison Cruz, LHP Soff Eres LHP Tom Fortham, RHP Keith Foulba RHP LHP Tombor Fortham, RHP Bob Hown, RHP Matt Karchner, LHP Todd Rizza, RHP Bill Simos, LHP Mike Sirotka, RHP John Snydes LHP Bryan Wartt, RHP Joson Gisen, C Matk, Johnson, C Robert Machada, INF Joseph Boutletq, INF Benji GH, INF Cardos Le. Niff Green Norton, INF Sergio Nunez, INF Made Valdez, OF Jeff Abbott, INF Monglio Ordania. NATIONAL LEAGUE

PASKETSALL

MATIONAL BASICETBALL ASSOCIATION
MEA-Suspended Houseon C. Hotoren
STBA-Suspended Houseon C. Hotoren
STBA-Suspended Rockets F-C Kavin Wall
STB, Control of the Control of th March 8 game.
PHILADELPHIA—Put F Denrick Colembia
and F-C Scott Williams on Injured Ret.
SEATTLE—Signed C George Zidek to a 10-

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m Q}_{0\,0325}$ P 120 (1838) Paled HIL office BLZF

MY YOUND

SPORTS

ion Brazilia For Orioles at on Zagal Just a Year

By Mark Maske

FORT MYERS, Florida - The thing that's easy to forget about the inspirational comeback of Eric Davis last year is that, in the early stages of the season, he was the Baltimore Orioles' best play-

Ray Miller, the Orioles manager, said recently that Davis had nothing to prove. The outfielder, following surgery for colon cancer last June, returned to the lineup in September and played during the postseason between weekly chemotherapy treatments.

Before his story became one about cancer surgery and returning to the Orioles' lineup, it already was a baseball success story: In his second season since a hemiated disk in his neck forced a oneyear retirement, Davis was playing like : an all-star again.

That story has resumed during spring training. Davis added to it Monday. hitting a pair of two-run home runs as the Orioles beat the Minnesota Twins,

9-3, in an exhibition game.

If anyone had doubts about Davis's ability to thrive as a player this year, he's doing his best in Florida to erase them. In seven exhibition games, he is hitting 474 with 3 home runs, 12 runs batted in and 8 runs scored.

That's on the heels of an offseason in which he had to cut back baseball workouts because of chemotherapy, which he completed only eight days before he arrived in the Orioles' spring

training camp late last month.
"I've worked hard since I've been down here," Davis said. "I've worked more on my focus and concentration than my results."

The Orioles got an early glimpse of Davis's ability last season. He hit seven homers in his first 21 games and was batting .388 on May 6 — 2½ weeks before he experienced intense stomach pains that led to the cancer diagnosis. Miller says he isn't surprised that Davis has been this sharp, this early in the spring.

"There's a tremendous amount of talent there that's been held back a long time by injuries," Miller said. "He's loving life and playing great. In my -- mind, I think he probably felt under-appreciated his whole career because people looked at him as a flamboyant-

type guy.

"Now everybody finds out what a great guy he is. It's just letting that talent flow naturally.

Davis said that he had cut down his weightlifting routine and was working on his endurance. The test, he said, is to play nine innings and then be able to bounce back and play again the following day.

He estimated Monday that his stamina level, about 85 percent of normal now, never reached more than 60 per-... cent last year after he returned to the → = lineup.

St. 5

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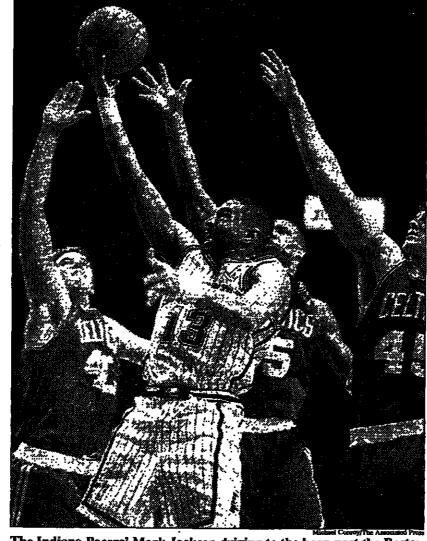
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Even if Davis continues to play the way he has here, Miller said that he did not intend to change his plans to play
Davis in about 100 to 110 of the 164

rames this season.
"I'd like to keep it like that, and have later in the year when we need it,'Miller said.



The Indiana Pacers' Mark Jackson driving to the hoop past the Boston Celtics' Travis Knight, left, Ron Mercer and Andrew DeClercq.

Low on Power, Rockets Start Fast but Fall to Jazz

The Houston Rockets were without

Hakeem Olajuwon, Kevin Willis and Mario Elie in Salt Lake City but still stretched the Utah Jazz to the limit. The players were all suspended, yet

the Rockets led into the fourth quarter before losing, 100-93.

'We went out on the road and played five games last week, and this is the toughest game to play, the first one back home," said the Jazz forward Karl Malone. "You come back home, you relax, you get into a comfort zone, and you can get beat."

Eddie Johnson had a season-high 37 points, 25 in the first half, for the undermanned Rockets. Olajuwon, Willis and Elie were suspended for their part in a fight near the end of Houston's victory Samrday in Phoenix.

Johnson, 38, hit nine straight shots in one stretch.

"I'd say it was a good game, but we just couldn't get over the hump," said Charles Barkley, who had 10 points and 11 rebounds. Malone led the Jazz with 29 points, a

season-high 21 rebounds and 6 assists. Suns 134, Clippers 105 Phoenix was without its top two scorers, Antonio McDyess and Rex Chapman. McDyess was suspended because of the fight with the Rockets. The Suns simply shrugged

and routed Los Angeles. Nine of the 10 Suns players who suited up scored in double figures against the worst defense in the National Basketball Association.

George McCloud had 18 of his season-high 21 points in the second quarter.

Kevin Johnson scored 19 points, and Jason Kidd had 12 points and 13 assists as host Phoenix matched last season's total of 40 victories with 21 games remaining. Eric Piatkowski scored 23 points in

25 minutes for the Clippers.

Warriors 93, Kings 88 Erick Dampier scored 22 points and Donyell Marshali 21, and Golden State scored the game's final seven points to win in Sacramento.

Magic 88, 76ors 78 Orlando hit only 37 percent of its shots, but that was enough to win in Philadelphia. Nick Anderson had 22 points, eight rebounds and seven assists, but was 8-for-22 from the field.

 The Seattle SuperSonics became the first team to clinch a playoff berth Monday night, after Sacramento's 93-88 loss to Golden State. Utah could follow the Sonics with a victory Wednesday night over the Kings.

■ Hearing Set for Hornets' Player Anthony Mason has given a blood sample to prosecutors in Queens, New York, and a hearing on charges that he

had sex with an under-age girl last month was delayed until April 7 to allow DNA testing to be conducted, the prosecutors said, The Associated Press reported.

Mason, 31, and a cousin, William Duggins, 24, were charged with statutory rape, sexual abuse and endan-

gering the welfare of a child on Feb. 8 after two sisters, ages 14 and 15, told the police they had had consensual sex with the two men in Duggins's apartment. Mason, a former Knick forward who now plays for the Charlotte Hornets, has

repeatedly denied the charges.

Prairie View A&M Dares to Hope

Team From 'Loser' School Wins NCAA Date With Jayhawks

By Sue Anne Pressley Washington Post Service

RAIRIE VIEW, Texas — Some hurts take a long time to fade. Even now, fresh from a surprise, come-from-way-behind victory at the Southwestern Athletic Conference tournament, the Prairie View A&M Panthers still recall that recent basketball road trip through Louisiana, the pit stop at a country store, and the casual, cutting insult delivered by the proprietor.

"The vehicle had 'Prairie View' written on the side, and the first thing he said was, 'When are y'all going to win a football game?' "said the school's sports information director, Harlan Robinson. "It's that loser image. Everybody brings it up, no matter where you go."

That is what happens — often — when you come from a school that has not won a football game since Oct. 28, 1989, that has a nationally scorned, routinely laughed-at record of 0-77, an NCAA record.

But the basketball team's inspiring 59-57 victory Saturday night against Texas Southern, after trailing by 20 points at halftime, already has been enough to lift the sagging school spirit and restore the students' faith in athletic miracles.

"I'm so glad we finally won mething," said Benjamin Stewart, a something," said Benjamin Stewart, a senior. "It's been hard, year after year, to see the football team go down the hole."

In fact, the basketball team has

struggled as well, although not quite so spectacularly. Coach Elwood Plum-mer's 1991-92 team went 0-28, and his 1992-93 team went 1-26, albeit without the benefit of athletic scholarships. Just two seasons ago, the team earned a measly four victories.

But this season, although the Panthers were seeded seventh going into the conference tournament, their overall record is a relatively respectable 13-16. They snared their first conference championship and are prepared to enter their first NCAA tournament.

The No. 16-seeded Panthers are well accustomed to their role as underdog, and not even the prospect of facing the powerful and top-seeded Kansas Jay-hawks (with a 34-3 record and 13 straight victories) in the Midwest Re-gion first round of the NCAA tour-nament Friday night in Oklahoma City could dim their enthusiasm — and their

hope for another eye-popping surprise.
"We have to play well," Phimmer said as his team gathered for its first practice since returning from the con-ference tournament in Dallas. "We have to cut down on the turnovers. We have to handle the press. If we can make them play an up-and-down game — the whole 94 feet of the court — we'll do O.K."

It was too bad that the team had to

return in triumph to a campus that — this being spring break week - resembled a ghost town. A few souls strolled the grounds with their greening oak trees and neatly kept buildings 50 miles west of Houston, but it was nothing like the pandemonium that would have broken out had all 6,004 students been in attendance. A campus police officer, Gerald Jackson, for one, was a little relieved. He did not relish the prospect of a riot, even a happy one. But he also was extremely proud of his team and welcomed the relief from the long dry spell. "Even in our bad times, we are still proud," he said.

The drought has not really been the players' fault. In 1989, because of financial problems, the university - part of the Texas A&M system - decided to eliminate its entire slate of competitive athletics, except for men's and women's track. Two months later, school officials reinstated the programs, but only some of their athletic scholarships. Even now, the basketball program has only 3.3 schol-arships to divide among 10 players.

To the dismay of the school's other coaches and players, the dismal football record always has tended to overshadow the accomplishments of other Prairie View athletic programs. And it was no surprise to anyone here that on Sunday, as

television commentators reviewed the NCAA tournament roster, they continu-ally mentioned Prairie View's basketball victory in conjunction with its monu-mental losses — in football.

"They always relate football to every other sport," said Jocelyn Adams, the women's volleyball coach, even though that team won the 1992 conference championship and routinely places second or third in the conference each year. "No matter what you do, there's always that stigma."

But surely the basketball team's performance in the championship game Saturday night went a long way toward winning new respect from the outside world. Regular watchers of the Panthers insisted the team was starting to gel and given the right opportunity could deliver a few upsets. Known for its strong defense, the team boasts seven seasoned seniors, including Tamarron Sharpe, a 6foot-3 guard and the leading scorer with a 17-point average, who was named the tournament's most valuable player.

In the first half against Texas Southern (15-16), however, the Panthers shot a dismal 28 percent and trailed 41-21 at halftime. "It wasn't as bad as you might think in the locker room," said King Whetstone, the starting point guard. "We've been down like that before. And we just knew we had to chunk them

down piece by piece."

Sure enough, the Panthers opened the second half with an 11-0 run, and by the time Whetstone checked the clock and saw that 11 minutes were left, the team was down by only six. "It was intense, it was intense," said Kevin Bell, a reserve forward. "Both sides were battling and people were on the edges of their seats. It was the best half of our lives."

Facing the thought of the Jayhawks on Friday night, the team remains undaunted. They know what they're up against, they know what they have to do - but who knows? Anything can happen, and the Prairie View Panthers, for a change, are on a roll.

NCAA Bets: Pick a Name, Any Name

UNC-Charlotte (with

Volunteers,

guard Diego Guevara).

son, College of Charleston.

Washington Post Service

Prairie View A & M got into the NCAA basketball tournament? I like Prairie View. And I like Radford. (I might like Nicholls State, if I knew where it was. I can't seem to find the state of Nicholls on the map.)

I like Radford because it was a wom-en's college until 1972. For 50 years Radford's career high scorer was probably somebody named Dorothy.

I like Prairie View A & M because it has no chance. The Soviet Union has a better chance of winning the NCAAs than Prairie View A & M.

O.K., it's betting combinations you want, isn't it? Forces Of Nature: Red Storm, Hur-

ricanes, Flames, Bobby Knight. Animals With Stuff Growing Out Of Their Heads: Horned Frogs, Rams. Billikens, Razorbacks.

Old-Time Religion: Valparaiso Crusaders, Texas Christian, Blue Dev-

ils, U-Mass. Older-Time Religion: Temple. Dogs: Connecticut Huskies, Washington Huskies, Butler Bulldogs,

Tom Clancy: Colonels, Midshipmen, Musketeers, Minutemen.

Insurgents: Rebels, Runnin' Rebels,

Me Now: Eastern Michigan, Western Michigan, Michigan State, Detroit, Very Icky Final: Richmond Spiders

vs. TCU Horned Frogs. American Political History: Seminoles, Illini, Utes, Colonials.

Michigan Seems Like A Dream To

Workingmen: Comhuskers, Boilermakers, Lumberjacks, Cowboys. Expensive Cars: Congars, Jaguars, Broncos, whatever Iona.

The Money team: James Penny (TCU), LaRon Profit (Maryland), James Banks (Nicholls State) and

Ricky Price (Duke). The Diner Team: There's Hamm and Eggers (Jason Hamm of South Alabama; Robbie Eggers of Indiana), Northern Arizona's Casey Frank, Utah State's Kevin Rice, and the MVP, Cookie Belcher of Nebraska, who has

Carolina In My Mind: UNC, UNC-Charlotte, Duke, Davidson. idson, Goldie Hawn. And now, some of our best names, Carolina In My Mind Reprise: South Carolina, South Carolina State, Clembeginning with Arkansas's Sunday

got this team coming and going. Wildcats: Arizona, Kentucky, Dav-

Vantage Point/Tony Kornheiser

Adebayo (and his mythical cousin Wednesday Adebirchmere), David-son's Ben Ebong and UNC-Charlotte's DeMarco Johnson. I pray that somewhere there is a DeMarco Zorro. Royalty Team: Prince Fowler

(TCU), King Whetstone (Prairie View A & M), Pharoah Davis (Utah State), Baron Davis (UCLA), Lester Earl

Cool Names: Jerome Coaxum (South Alabama), Kaspars Kambala (UNLV), Rasheed Brokenborough (Temple), Rolf van Rijn (Farleigh Dickinson), Anthony Irwin Kornheiser

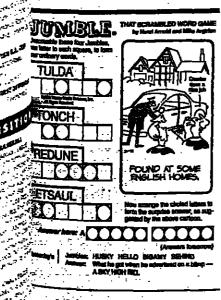
(Binghamton). Way Cool Names: Jermel President (College of Charleston), Monquencio Hardnett (U-Conn.), Awvee Storey (Illinois), De Tefi Mayes (Murray State), Marseilles Brown (Richmond).

Coolest Name: Bud Johnson (South Carolina).

« DENNIS THE MENACE



YOU GOTTA WATCH MARGARET. SHE'S A SPY FOR GROWNUPS."



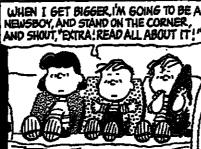
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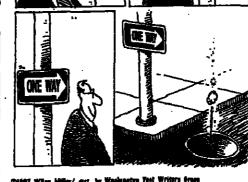


















WIZARD of ID

YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE A VERY HAPPY OWL.





DOONESBURY







The GOP Candidate

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK— Despite means that what it takes is Monica Lewinsky and millions and millions and millions Stonewall Clinton, there is lions of simoleons. That's part good news for Democrats. of what it takes, but last time

mouth; to wit, a man who de- millions and millions and milposits The Washington Post on lions of simoleons. my doorstep in the sinister hours

between midnight and dawn.
The Republicans are so licans solve their two presidential problems:

 Can they find a candidate voters by the million. who doesn't make the hair rise on the back of the necks of the voting millions?

 If they find one, how can they possibly get him nom-inated by Republican Con-Republican conservatives. vention delegates traditionally addicted to candidates who make the hair rise on the back of all American necks but their own?

Gingrich is typical. Ruffled
Then there are Senator Phil
by that Washington Post Gramm of Texas. Represenpiece, he denied having the presidential bug. Democrats and Governor George W. will be saddened to believe it. Bush of Texas. Does anybody The famous polls now have seriously believe this country him running neck-and-neck will be ready for more Texas with Kenneth Starr for Loser in the White House while milof the Year.

For Republicans, however. Gingrich is only the tip of the Titanic. There is Pat Buchastraighten you out. Last time up against the Reverends out, he actually did campaign

I hear somebody shouting: 'Steve Forbes! Steve's got what it takes." This, I assume, Newt Gingrich may be the Republicans' next presidential candidate.

Out of the gate Forbes left the distinct impression that his main goal as president would I have it from the horse's be a big tax cut for folks with

Since then he has beefed up deep in campaign money that his résumé by joining the they can commandeer every squadrons of the anti-abor-television screen in the coun-try, and probably will before strengthen his case with those the biennial buying of the two pillars of the Republican Congress ends in November. Party, the Reverends Robert-Democratic doom need not be son and Falwell, thus giving total, however, unless Repub- him respectability in the usual crackpot Republican convention and casting off women

> Who else? Senator Trent Lott of Mississippi? That's as Southern as it comes, but as Senate leader he is the point man for much that delights and not many others.

> Sure, there is Lamar Alexander of Tennessee. Nothing alarming about him. On the other hand, there's nothing interesting about him

> Then there are Senator Phil tative Bill Archer of Texas lions still live who remember

Lyndon Johnson? This field makes you realize how lucky the Republinan, one tough baby, sweet- cans were last time to have heart, and in case you doubt it, had Senator Bob Dole. And he'll put on a black hat and how lucky Stonewall is to be Robertson and Falwell.

New York Times Service

A Blast Through the Past With John Goodman

By Franz Lidz

NEW YORK — John Goodman cradles the make-believe bowling ball in his hands as if contemplating Yorick's skull. Standing in the middle of a midtown Manhattan intersection, he takes four careful

His smile is a

nice combination

and the diabolical.

of the innocent

it down 55th Street. The burly Goodman stops at the make-believe foul line and poises nimbly on his left foot like a ballet dancer. When the make-believe pins go down, he does a little cakewalk. On this cold morning, the

actor, a nonbowler who has surely portrayed more bowlers than anyone in motion-picture history, is cakewalking around his past, revisiting old haunts and reviving memories of a time before his eightyear run as Roseanne's television husband, a time when he was just one more unemployed actor. Despite dark glasses — or possibly because of them — he is quickly recognized and accosted for autographs.

Goodman, who now lives outside New Orleans with his units and his Tayang old

Orleans with his wife and his 7-year-old daughter, is unfailingly friendly, charming. courtly, even kind to his fans. "Are you John Goodman?" shouts a

woman as he crosses 54th Street.
"Usually," he says, and a boy's smile

creases the 45-year-old's pudding-like face. Goodman always seems to have a smile, a nice combination of the innocent and the

Over the last few months he has worn it rowers." He wears it again in "The Big hick in a straw hat." Lebowski," Joel and Ethan Coen's kidnap-

brute with a lighted fuse. "Walter's whacked, a real piece of cake,"

Their style demands vivid acting, and Good-man — in his third Coen brothers film (he was also in 'Raising Arizona' and 'Barton Fink') — plays Sobchak exuberantly, with warmth and a kind of uncontained inno-

"There's something utterly guileless about John." Joel Coen says. "He's an insteps, curls the ball behind him and flapjacks credibly versatile actor who often gets typecast in uninteresting

> Do Goodman's big guys have anything in common? He offers a wry half-smile with a kind of frank diffidence. "Yeah," he says. They're all overweight." Moving briskly across

Madison Avenue, he passes the offices of Mad the magazine that formed his boyhood consciousness. In Affton, Missouri, the consciousness. In Afron, Missouri, the magazine was the only cultural event of the month. "I got my education from Mad," Goodman says. "If I didn't get a joke, I'd consult the encyclopedia." From it, he learned smart-aleck skepticism, suspicion of authority figures and Yiddishisms like furshlugginer and potraebie.

At Ninth Avenue, he hangs left and bellows, "There's my first apartment!" He opens the front door of the building and scans the mailbox for familiar names. "It had cable and a great brick view," he says. "The bathroom was in the hall, and the bathrub because we did a disco version." was in the kitchen. The stains on the tub's porcelain seemed to indicate that at one time gin had been brewed in there."

Goodman signed a lease on this distillery in 1976, a year after he had hopped a train for while helping Denzel Washington bottle a New York. He had arrived at Penn Station serial killer's evil spirit in "Fallen," while affecting an air of deadpan hipsterism in "Blues Brothers 2000." while squeezing palm-size people in his first in "The Bornamer". He may be says. "I felt like a like stake from his older brother. "I'd never been in New York before," he says. "I felt like a hick in a straw hat."

never he says. I monght I had a good shot at being one of the horses."

The taxi pulls up at 505 Eighth Avenue, the home of WBAI-FM. For three years in

Goodman's career was not an unfettered 'n'-bowling caper grown from seeds planted ascent. "That first winter in Manhattan I in "The Big Sleep," the 1946 Howard thought about giving up," he says. "It was Hawks classic starring Humphrey Bogart day after day of nothing. I got to the point and Lauren Bacall. Goodman is cast in the where I wasn't doing much of anything Bacall role, as Walter Sobchak, a bowling except the Sunday crossword puzzles." He patched together a slender living doing television commercials. He sold jeans, root beer, he says. "He's not the brightest bulb on the Christmas tree." The Coens (Joel directs, Mennen Skin Bracer. It was Goodman who



John Goodman is starring in Joel and Ethan Coen's "The Big Lebowski."

1978, at the Equity Library Theatre, that he made his New York stage debut (the theater closed in 1989). "I was Oberon in 'A Mid-

Speeding southward, Goodman spots various landmarks: the actors' joint where he and Bruce Willis used to nurse Budweisers and leave dollar tips; the pinball arcade where he discovered Pac-Man. Turning down 45th Street, Goodman points out the Plymouth Theatre. "I tried out for 'Equus' here," he says. "I thought I had a good shot

the mid-1980s, Goodman and a couple of pals performed sketches on a monthly radio show called "Citizen Kafka." His most inspired creation was Farmer Bob, a lecherous hayseed who harvested Cabbage Patch love dolls. "Kafka was trashy, deranged, dis-gusting," Goodman says. "It played right into my Mad sensibility."

The Coen brothers - onetime Mad enthusiasts themselves - say it was that very Ethan produces, and they both write) tend to said, "Thanks, I needed that!" sensibility that got Goodman a part in "Rais- lustrated and author of the memoir "Unsung populate their intricate, unnerving fables Goodman flags down a cab, and heads to with boldly outlined cartoon characters. 103d and Riverside Drive. It was there in inal mastermind with a two-digit IQ," lit- Times.

erally proved to be his breakout movie role. The ticking-bomb performance so im-pressed the Coens that they later asked him to appear in "Barton Fink," their post-mod-ernist Faustian comedy. "What's it about?" Goodman asked.
"Well," said Ethan Coen. "You really

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have to read the script." Goodman read it, liked it and played Charlie the insurance salesman with such sunny menace that he was nominated for a Golden Globe. The afternoon sun has begun to cut length-

ening shadows across the theater district as Goodman spies the facade of the Eugene O'Neill. Thirteen years ago he made a showy splash here as Huck Finn's father, Pap, in the

musical "Big River."

Good notices landed him in a 1987 production of "Antony and Cleopatra" in Los Angeles, where he was spotted by an ABC talent scout. The network needed a mate for Roseanne. "Somebody furshlugginer," Goodman says. "And that somebody was

The rest is current events.

Franz Lidz, a senior writer at Sports II-

PEOPLE

THE South Korean conductor Chung Myung Whun, a former musical director of the Paris Opera, will return to France this week for two concerts with the French National Orchestra. After being ousted from the Paris Opera in 1994 after a five-year tenure. Chung now heads the Santa Cecilia auditorium in Rome, but he has kept his links with France and regularly returns as a guest conductor.

J. Paul Getty Jr., the American-born billionaire. philanthropist and Anglophile, has been knighted by Queen Elizabeth II - 12 years after first being designated for the honor. Getty, 65. received the title Knight Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire in 1986 for his services to charity, but was not allowed to fully enjoy its benefits — including being called "Sir Paul" — because he was not a British citizen. He was granted citizenship in December, 26 years after settling

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Ozawa during the celebration at the Boston Symphony. charities. But it immediately trouser suit, skirt suit and dress.

there by the Village People, saving the '70s disco kings princess's death, the Parkinson's Disease Society, because should not be allowed to play on the island because gay sex is illegal in Jamaica and the band is popular among gays. The leader of the Jamaica Council of Churches, Stanley Clarke, said the group's appearance at this weekend's Negril Music Festival would be "disrespectful" to Jamaicans.

> The longest-running conductor in the 117-year-history of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Seiji Ozawa, was the guest of honor at a luncheon commemorating his 25th season. "It was just so fast things many tenure. "For me this is not my job. This is my life."

The memorial fund named for Diana, Princess of Wales, has announced the first round of grants worth £13 million (\$21 million) to her favorite

Church leaders in Jamaica are opposing a planned concert came under fire from one that had been dropped before the eight causes would share £8 million while just £5 million will be allocated among 100 more.

> The cellist and conductor Mstislav Rostropovich was named Unesco's goodwill ambassador for peace for his work defending human rights and world peace.

The lesbian activist Chastity Bono says the television series "Ellen" is too gay. The ABC program "is so gay it's excluding a large part of our society," Bono, the daughter of Cher and the late Sonny Bono, was quoted as saying in Daily Variety. Bono, director of entertainment media at the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, and once a bit player on the show, said its creators need to take a "more moderate" path.

The Royal Opera House in London went shopping for costumes at Marks and Spencer after the Italian designer Giorgio Armani refused to let his fashions be altered. The opera house was trying to revive its Armani-designed 1995 production of "Cosi Fan Tutte," with its £18,000 (\$29,000) wardrobe. But three female singers failed to fit into the modern unstructured suits. The opera spent £300 on a similar-looking



Getty with his wife, Lady Victoria, after his knighting.





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